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—(7.)—

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS;
COLONIAL REPORTS (ANNUAL);
AFRICA TO JAMAICA.

Session

29 *January* 1908 — 21 *December* 1908.

VOL. LXVIII.

1908.

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS

OF THE

COLONIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS
IN THE
AFRICA TO AFRICA

Session

20 January 1855 - 21 December 1855

VOL. LXVII

ACCOUNTS AND PAPERS:

1908

SIXTY-FIVE VOLUMES:—CONTENTS OF THE

SEVENTH VOLUME.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 565.

THE SURVEYS
OF
BRITISH AFRICA,
CEYLON,
AND THE
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE.

THIRD YEAR.

To June, 1908.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 532.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1908.



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1908.

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EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.



An iron survey quadripod centred over a cement observation pillar for astronomical and trigonometrical observations.

No. 565.

COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT,
JUNE, 1908.

The following Report of the Colonial Survey Committee has been submitted to and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

R. C. HELLARD, *Colonel.*

H. J. READ.

C. F. CLOSE, *Major, Gen. Staff.*

W. C. BOTTOMLEY, *Secretary.*

16th July, 1908.

I.

REVIEW OF THE WORK OF THE PAST YEAR.

Topographical Surveys.—A total area of about 56,500* square miles has been topographically surveyed in British Africa during the past year, as under :—

Orange River Colony	...	...	7,300 sq. miles.
Cape Colony	...	...	17,000 " "
Basutoland	...	...	2,500 " "
Uganda	...	...	13,000 " "
Gold Coast	...	...	15,000 " "
N. Nigeria	...	...	1,700 " "

Rough Surveys and Explorations are being carried out in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, and Sierra Leone.

Geodesy.—The work of measuring about $2\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ of the arc of the 30° meridian to the west of Uganda is being carried out in conjunction with the Congo Government. It is expected that the measurement will be completed in the course of this summer.

Cadastral Surveys have been in progress in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Gold Coast, Uganda, and East Africa.

It is satisfactory to be able to record a very considerable reduction of the arrears of surveys required for land conveying in East Africa.

Boundary Commissions.—Three Commissions have been at work during the past year :—

- (i.) The Niger-Chad Commission (British Commissioner Major O'Shee, R.E.) has delimited and beacons the northern frontier of Northern Nigeria from the Niger to Lake Chad, as required by the Anglo-French protocol of the 9th April, 1906.
- (ii.) The Uganda-Congo Commission (British Commissioner Lieut.-Col. Bright, C.M.G., Rifle Brigade) has completed the surveys of the frontier zone from the south of Lake Albert Edward, past Ruwenzori to the western shores of Lake Albert.
- (iii.) The Anglo-German, Yola-Cross River, Commission (British Commissioner Lieut.-Col. Whitlock, R.E.) has completed the survey of the boundary from Yola as far south as the frontier of Southern Nigeria.

* Excluding the area surveyed by the Niger-Chad Boundary Commission.

Altogether 1,300 linear miles of frontier have been surveyed during the year.

Catalogue of Published Maps.—A catalogue of the maps published by the Topographical Section of the General Staff has been issued, for the first time, this year. The catalogue contains, *inter alia*, a complete list of all official maps of Africa purchasable by the public, and is provided with index diagrams which show the incidence of the published sheets.

NOTE.—This report differs from those of 1906 and 1907 in that it is not entirely confined to a consideration of the surveys of British Africa but also contains an account of the surveys of Ceylon and of the Federated Malay States. The reason for this is that it has been considered desirable to record briefly the state of the surveys of those countries as determined by the inspection in 1907.

II.

REGULATIONS AFFECTING SURVEY DEPARTMENTS.

(i.) THE SPELLING OF AFRICAN PLACE NAMES.

The Secretary of State has approved of the following rules for the spelling of place names in British Tropical Africa :—

- (a) Established forms of spelling of well known places are to be retained, *e.g.*, Coomassie, Accra.
- (b) The spelling of other place names is to be in accordance with the rules of the Royal Geographical Society. (Briefly, in this system, the consonants are as in English and the vowels as in Italian.)
- (c) The Director of Surveys in each Colony or Protectorate (or where there is no Director of Surveys, the Intelligence Officer), is responsible for the correctness of the spelling of the place names on field sheets sent home for reproduction. He will ascertain the true pronunciation from Commissioners and Residents.

In any case in which it is doubtful whether a name should be dealt with under (a) or (b) he will refer the question to the Governor for decision.

(ii.) INSTRUCTION IN SURVEYING.

Arrangements have been made for civil and military officers in Colonial employment who are home on leave, to be instructed in surveying at the Ordnance Survey, Southampton. The

instruction can be arranged for at any time of the year except during the month of September, during which month no class will be held. The instruction would usually last for one month. Officers and officials who desire to go through such a course should, as a rule, apply for permission before coming home, naming the approximate dates that would be convenient to them.

(iii.) APPOINTMENTS TO SURVEY DEPARTMENTS.

Candidates for junior appointments in the Survey Departments dealt with in this report, will, if provisionally selected, be sent to the Ordnance Survey, Southampton, for a month's course of instruction in surveying. If during this course the Director General of the Ordnance Survey reports that the candidate is unfitted for the post to which he has been provisionally appointed, the candidate will be withdrawn from the course, and will not receive the appointment.

TABLE SHOWING THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE DELIMITATION OF BRITISH FRONTIERS IN AFRICA.

Red Nos. on Map.	Name of Boundary.	Length Miles.	Treaty concerned and Date.	Commissioners.	Dates of				REMARKS.
					Delimitation Survey.	Marked on Ground.	Protocol signed.	Finally approved.	
1	Gambia (Anglo-French)	425	Aug. 10th, 1889 ..	British :— Capt. A. H. Kenney, R.E. French :— Capt. Pineau M. Lecomte, Civil Administrator.	Nov., 1890, to May, 1891	May, 1891	June 9th, 1891	—	—
1	"	—	" " "	British :— Mr. Beeve. Mr. Ozanne. French :— M. Fargue, Lieut. de Jussien. M. Robert (Interpreter).	1895-6.	—	—	—	—
1	"	—	" " "	British :— Mr. H. Reeve. Lieut. A. H. Tyler, R.E.	1898-9.	—	—	—	—
1	"	—	April 8th, 1904 ..	British :— Major Cowie, W.I.R.	1905-6.	—	—	—	—
2	Sierra Leone—French Guinea.	260	Aug. 10th, 1889, Jan. 21st, 1895.	British :— Capt. A. H. Kenney, R.E. French :— M. Lecomte, Governor of the French Colony of Les Rivières-du-Sud.	Dec., 1891, to April, 1892.	—	—	—	From the Coast to Tembi-Kunda.
2	"	—	"	British :— Lieut.-Col. J. K. Trotter, R.A. French :— Capt. A. H. Tyler, R.E. Capt. Passaga. Lieut. Cayrauc. Lieut. Milot.	Dec., 1895, to May, 1896.	1895, 1896	April 9th and 30th, 1896.	June 14th and 16th, 1898.	From the Coast to Tembi-Kunda.

COLONIAL SURVEY REPORT :
BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS.

Red Nos. on Map.	Name of Boundary.	Length, Miles.	Treaty concerned and Date.	Commissioners.	Dates of				REMARKS.
					Delimitation Survey.	Marked on Ground.	Protocol signed.	Finally Approved.	
2	Sierra Leone—French Guinea.	8	Aug. 10th, 1898, Jan. 21st, 1899.	British :— Mr. Birch. French :— M. Lescure.	1900 and Jan. 15th, 1903.	1903.	Mar. 12th, 1903.	Exchange of notes, Mar. 22nd and April 6th, 1904.	Tombi - Kundu Eastwards.
3	Sierra Leone—Liberia ..	195	Nov. 11th, 1895 ..	British :— Capt. H. D. Pearson, R.E. Lieut. E. W. Cox, R.E. Liberian :— Mr. J. McCarthy.	Jan., 1903, to July, 1903.	1903.	June 25th, 1903.	—	—
4	Gold Coast—Ivory Coast (Anglo-French).	450	July 12th, 1893 ..	British :— Major A. E. G. Watherston, R.E. Capt. Soden, R. Fus. French :— Capt. H. B. Des Voeux, R.E. M. Delafosse. Capt. Bouvet. Lieut. Laforgue.	May, 1902, to Feb., 1903.	1902 to 1903.	Feb. 1st, 1903.	May 11th and 18th, 1903.	—
5	Gold Coast, Northern Territories—French Sudan, Senegambia-Niger (Anglo-French Boundary North of Gold Coast). " " " "	195 " "	Convention, June 14th 1898. Agreement, Mar. 18th/ April 25th, 1904.	British :— Major A. E. G. Watherston, R.E. Lieut. F. B. Henderson, R.N. French :— M. A. Reltier. M. A. Obrier. British :— Capt. J. O'Kinealy. French :— Lieut. F. Verlaque.	1900.	—	Aug. 18th, 1901.	—	—
6	Gold Coast, Northern Territories—Togo (Anglo-German).	165	Convention, Nov. 14th, 1899.	British :— Capt. W. J. Johnston, R.E. Lieut. J. F. Turner, R.E. German :— Count Zech. Baron von Seefried.	Dec., 1901, to Sept., 1902.	—	Oct. 19th, 1904.	May 24th/ July 18th, 1905.	—

COLONIAL SURVEY REPORT :
BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS.

[illegible]

Red Nos. on Map.	Name of Boundary.	Length in Miles.	Treaty concerned and Date.	Commissioners.	Dates of				REMARKS.
					Delimitation on Ground.	Marked on Ground.	Protocol signed.	Finally Approved.	
11	Yola -Chad (Anglo-German).	350	Convention, Nov. 15th, 1893. Preliminary Agreement, Dec. 2nd, 1902.	British :— Lieut.-Col. L. Jackson, R.E. Capt. G. P. A. Whitlock, R.E. Lieut. L. C. Jackson, R.E. Lieut. L. C. A. de B. Doucet, R.E. German :— Hermann Glauning. Oblt. Marquardsen. Leut. Stephani. Leut. Schultze.	Aug. 10th, 1903, Feb. 1903, to Feb. 1904, and 1905.	—	Feb. 24th, 1904, and Mar. 18th, 1906.	July 16th, 1906.	(Treaty Series No. 17, 1906).
11	"	40	"	Local Commission to mark Boundary. British :— Mr. Hans Fischer. German :— Leut. von Stephani.	—	1906 to 1907.	Feb. 12th, and Mar. 11th, 1907.	—	From Goree to Lake Chad.
11	"	81	"	British :— Capt. Vicars Boyle. German :— Capt. von Stephani.	—	1907.	Mar. 11th, 1907.	—	From Uba, on Yeneseram River, to River Benue.
12	Cross River (Southern Nigeria-Kameruns).	140	Conventions, April 26th and May 7th, 1895, July 27th and Aug. 2nd, 1896, July 1st, 1890, April 14th, 1893, Nov. 15th, 1893.	British :— Capt. C. F. Close, R.E. Capt. E. P. S. Roupell. German :— Leut. von Besser.	1895.	—	—	—	Cross River to the Sea.
12	"	"	"	British :— Capt. A. J. Woodroffe, R.E. Lieut. J. G. Hearson, R.E. German :— Hutmann Hermann. Leut. von Roebel.	Dec. 1905, May, 1906.	1906.	1906.	—	—

COLONIAL SURVEY REPORT:
BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS.

11

13	Cross River Rapids—Yola Arc.	235	Nov. 15th, 1893 ..	British :— Lieut.-Col. G. F. A. Whitlock, R.E. Capt. H. T. G. Moore, R.E. Lieut. W. V. Nugent, R.A. 2nd Lieut. W. D. Downes, Royal Sussex Regiment. German :— Major Haering. Oblt. von Stephani. Oblt. Ouno. Oblt. Rotho.	1907	—	—	Not yet de- limited.
14	Barotsland—Angola ..	710	Convention, July 11th, 1891, and Arbitration award, May 30th, 1906.	—	—	—	—	Not yet de- limited.
15	Walfish Bay ..	75	July 1st, 1890, and Pro- clamation of annexa- tion, Mar. 12th, 1878.	—	—	—	—	Not yet de- limited.
16	Bechuanaland—German South-West Africa.	1113	July 1st, 1890, Art. III. (A.G.); Dec. 30th, 1886, Art. I. (G.P.); June 14th, 1891, Art. IV. (A.P.). July 1st 1890, Art. III.	British :— Major H. D. Laflin, R.E. German :— Oblt. Doering. Leut. Wetstein.	Nov. 1886, to Oct., 1903.	—	—	Part only of boundary de- limited.
16	Cape Colony—German South-West Africa (Orange River).				—	—	—	Not yet de- limited.
17	Amatongaland—Portu- guese East Africa.	30	June 11th, 1891, Art. III.	British :— Mr. W. Bosman. Portuguese :— Capt. Nunes da Silva.	Aug. 1896, to Dec., 1896	—	—	—
17	" " "	"	" " "	British :— Mr. W. Bosman. Portuguese :— Capt. Nunes da Silva.	—	Aug. and Oct., 1897.	Oct. 2nd, 1897.	—
18	Swaziland—Portuguese East Africa.	65	Conference, April to June, 1907.	British :— Major J. G. Baldwin, R.A. Mr. W. H. Giffillan. Mr. J. Smuts. Portuguese :— Major Freire D'Andrade. Lieut. A. de S. Freire Cabral. Lieut. D. N. de O. Noronha.	1888, 1894, and 1897.	April, 1907	—	Portuguese and Boer Com- mission.

Red Nos. on Map.	Name of Boundary.	Length in Miles.	Treaty concerned and Date.	Commissioners.	Dates of				REMARKS.
					Delimitation Survey.	Marked on Ground.	Protocol signed.	Finally approved.	
19	Transvaal - Portuguese East Africa.	255	July 26th, 1889, Convention of London, Feb. 27th, 1884.	British:— Major J. G. Baldwin, R.A. Mr. W. H. Gillman. Portuguese:— Major Freire D'Andrade, Lieut. A. de S. Freire Cabral, Lieut. D. N. de C. Noronha.	1887, 1890, and 1894.	1887, 1890, 1894.	—	—	Portuguese and Boer Commission.
20	Limpopo River to Sabi River (Anglo - Portuguese).	115	June 11th, 1891	British:— Mr. W. J. Atherstone. Portuguese:— José A. Serrano.	Dec. 1902, to July, 1903.	—	Dec. 21st, 1903/July 18th, 1904.	June 3rd, 1907.	In one exchange of notes.
21	Mazoe or Manica Boundary (Anglo - Portuguese 18° 30' S. to Sabi River).	235	June 11th, 1891, and Arbitral award, Jan. 30th, 1897.	British:— Major J. J. Leverson, R.E., Capt. S. C. N. Grant, R.E., Lieut. C. S. Wilson, R.E. Portuguese:— Capt. Freire D'Andrade, Lieut. E. Salta de Susa, Capt. J. M. Severano. M. R. Machado de Faria Maia.	1892.	—	—	June 3rd, 1907.	
21	" "	"	"	British:— Capt. C. S. Wilson, R.E. Portuguese:— Capt. Freire D'Andrade.	—	1898, 1899.	June 5th and 28th, 1898, and Dec. 14th and 15th, 1898.	—	—
22	Barue Boundary (Anglo-Portuguese, River Mazoe, and 18° 30' South).	145	June 11th, 1891	British:— Lieut.-Col. J. J. Leverson, R.E., Capt. A. E. G. Watherton, R.E., Lieut. O. R. Brown, R.E.	1898.	1905 to	Dec. 28th, 1898.	Mar. and April, 1902, Jan. and April, 1904.	Exchange of notes.

Red Map. Nos. on	Name of Boundary.	Length Miles.	Treaty concerned and Date.	Commissioners.	Dates of			REMARKS.
					Delimita- tion Survey.	Marked on Ground.	Protocol signed.	
27	Congo Free State— North-West Rhodesia.	1,200	May 12th, 1894	—	—	—	—	Not yet de- limited
28	Congo Free State— Uganda and Sudan.	800	May 12th, 1894, and May 9th, 1906.	British :— Lieut.-Col. R. G. T. Bright, C.M.G., Rifle Brigade. Capt. E. M. Jack, R.E. Lieut. Hon. F. R. D. Prittie, Rifle Brigade. Congolese :— (?) British :— Lieut.-Col. R. G. T. Bright, C.M.G., Rifle Brigade. Lieut. G. E. Smith, R.E. German :— Dr. Carl Peters. British :— Mr. A. Hardinge. German :— Oberst Liebert.	Jan. 1907, to present.	—	—	—
29	British — German East Africa (Indian Ocean to Lake Jipe).	118	July 1st, 1890	British :— Lieut.-Col. G. E. Smith, R.E. Major R. G. T. Bright, Rifle Bde. Lieut. F. T. Behrens, R.E. German :— Hermann Schlobach. Obst. W. Schwarz. Obst. M. Weiss.	1892.	—	July 25th, 1893.	—
29	" " "	"	July 25th, 1893	British :— Mr. A. Hardinge. German :— Oberst Liebert.	1897.	1900.	Jan. 23th, Feb. 14th, and April 25th, 1900.	Not beacons throughout its entire length.
30	British — German East Africa (South end of Jipe to Lake Victoria).	350	Treaty, July 1st, 1890 Convention, July 25th, 1893.	British :— Lieut.-Col. G. E. Smith, R.E. Major R. G. T. Bright, Rifle Bde. Lieut. F. T. Behrens, R.E. German :— Hermann Schlobach. Obst. W. Schwarz. Obst. M. Weiss.	Apr., 1904, to Jan., 1906.	1904 to 1906.	July 18th, 1906.	—
30	German East Africa— Uganda.	150	July 1st, 1890	British :— Col. Delme Radcliffe, Major R. G. T. Bright, Rifle Bde. Lieut. F. T. Behrens, R.E. German :— Hermann Schlobach. Obst. W. Schwarz. Obst. M. Weiss.	July, 1902, to Apr. 1904.	1904.	July 18th, 1906.	—

COLONIAL SURVEY REPORT:
BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS.

31	Italian—Somaliland— British East Africa.	375	March 24th, 1891	..					Not yet de- limited.
31(a)	British—Somaliland— Abyssinia.		May 14th, 1897, June 4th, 1897.	June					Not yet de- limited.
32	British—Somaliland— Italian Somaliland.	710	March 24th, 1891	..					Not yet de- limited.
33	British—Somaliland— French Somali Coast.	50	February 2nd, 1888	..					Not yet de- limited.
34	Uganda and East Africa. —Abyssinia Boundary.	760	—	..	Major H. H. Austin, R.E. Brev.-Major R. G. T. Bright, Rifle Breg. Co., R.E. Capt. P. Maund, R.E. Mr. J. Baird.	1900-01.			—
34	" " "	"	—	..					—
34	" " "	"	December 8th, 1907	..					—
35	Sudan—Abyssinia	760	Treaty, May 15th, 1902	..	Major H. H. Austin, R.E. Lieut. C. W. Gwynn, R.E. Brev.-Major C. W. Gwynn, R.E., D.S.O.	1903.			—
35	" " "	"	" " "	..	British :— Capt. the Hon. M. G. Talbot, R.E. Italian :— Major Martinelli. Teniente A. Pollera.	1903.			—
36	Sudan—Eritrea	330	December 7th, 1898 June 1st, 1899, April 16th, 1901, November 22nd, 1901, May 15th, 1902.	..	Teniente A. Pollera. Capt. Tornare, Brev.-Major W. J. Walter, Lancas.Fus.	1899, 1901.			R. Steitt to Abu Gamal
36	" " "	"	" " "	..					From Sabdenit North - East- wards.
37	Anglo - French — From Congo-Nile Watershed to Tripoli.	1,950	March 21st, 1899 Treaty, Series 15, 1899.	..					Not yet de- limited.
38	Egypt—Tripoli	1,000	—	..					Not yet de- limited.
39	Egypt—Turkish, Sinai Peninsula.	140	Firman, 1841	..	British :— Capt. R. C. Owen. Mr. Wade. Mr. Keeling. Turkish :— Mazzafer Bey. Fehm Bey.	1906.		Oct. 1st, 1908.	Not yet de- limited.

IV.

REPORTS ON THE SURVEYS

OF

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN.

EAST AFRICA.

GAMBIA.

GOLD COAST.

NORTHERN NIGERIA.

NYASALAND.

RHODESIA.

SIERRA LEONE.

SOUTH AFRICA (GENERAL).

THE CAPE COLONY.

THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

UGANDA.

THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN SUDAN.

Sirdar	...	...	Major-General Sir F. R. WINGATE, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.
Director of Surveys...			Captain H. D. PEARSON, R.E.
Assistant-Director of Surveys	...	...	Lieutenant A. E. CONINGHAM, R.E.

NOTE.—The Colonial Survey Committee is not directly concerned with the surveys of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, but it has been thought desirable to include an account of these surveys in order to make the review of the mapping of British Africa more complete.

The following report has been kindly furnished by the Director of Surveys.

Topographical Work.

In 1906 a triangulation was commenced by Lieutenant Coningham from the previous Kassala-Suakin triangulation in order to fix the positions of certain hills in the mining districts in the neighbourhood of the Egyptian-Sudan Boundary on the 22nd parallel.

The primary object of this survey was accomplished, but a gap remained between this triangulation and Colonel Talbot's triangulation round Murrat, which had been made in 1902.

During 1907-08, in order to complete the Suakin-Murrat chain, as well as to furnish points along the Egyptian border on the 22nd parallel, to which the Egyptian surveyors working down from the north could connect, Lieutenant Coningham's triangulation was further extended to the north and west.

Though a large tract of this very broken country was mapped and the watercourses defined, the actual triangulation was not very successful owing chiefly to water difficulties rendering it impossible to stay for any time at any of the stations. This country is, however, of little value, and the maps produced as the result of the survey will probably prove sufficient for many years to come.

An attempt was also made to extend Lieutenant Coningham's triangulation, commenced in 1906-07, in the neighbourhood of El Obeid, in southern Kordofan, but after a few months' work, owing to some doubt existing as to the reception the survey parties might receive in the southern hills, it was considered advisable to discontinue the work temporarily.

Telegraphic longitudes of some eight stations on the Bahr-el-Jebel and Bahr-el-Zeraf were fixed during the past year.

A sketch map of the desert west of Dongola based on observed latitudes and perambulator traverses showing roads and wells with sufficient accuracy was made during the year.

In addition large numbers of route sketches have been carried out by civil and military officers in the provinces, especially in Kordofan, where the example set by Captain Lloyd, the Governor of the Province, has been keenly followed.

It has been the object of the Survey Department to fix positions astronomically or by triangulation in various parts of the country, as points on which such route sketches can be fitted and so to obtain in as short a time as possible maps of sufficient accuracy, from an administrative point of view, of all parts of the Sudan.

Four sheets of the Sudan on the "million" scale have been published up to date. These sheets have been supplemented locally by temporary sun prints on the same scale and such provisional maps for the whole of the Sudan are now available for local issue.

These maps, though useful for administrative purposes, have been compiled from route sketches only, and no great reliance can be placed on their accuracy.

Cadastral Surveys.

During the year the cadastral surveys of Halfa, Berber, the Gezira and White Nile Provinces have been continued.

In Halfa, during the year some 20,000 acres have been mapped on the $\frac{1}{2500}$ scale.

In Berber, where the cultivation is in larger plots and practically continuous as far as the cataracts south of Abu Hamed, the outturn during the year has been some 40,000 acres.

It is hoped that both these surveys will be completed next season.

In the Gezira, the large tract of cultivable land between the Blue and the White Nile, south of Khartoum, the system of minute squares described in last year's report has been continued. On examination it was found that the native trained surveyors had not justified the confidence placed in them to run lines between posts placed four minutes apart, and though the outer framework remained unaltered, the whole of the detail work had to be corrected during the present year.

New detail work was stopped shortly after its commencement by the recent disturbances.

The season's work will it is hoped enable maps covering some 300,000 acres to be completed. In addition also the stone and brick demarcation has been pushed well in advance, so that when survey work is re-commenced it will continue without interruption.

The White Nile survey, for some 200 miles above Khartoum differs from the other surveys in that it is for the measurement of land which is only uncovered at low water.

The triangulation from Khartoum south has now been completed for about 80 miles, and 15 miles of network of traverse, as yet on one bank only, has been run between trigonometrical stations.

The illness of the settlement officer, who had to be invalided home, made it impossible for any detail work to be undertaken, and this work is temporarily at a standstill.

During the past year the services of one surveyor were placed at the disposal of the Director of Agriculture and Lands for employment in surveying concessions of Government land applied for in Dongola and Berber Provinces.

Town Surveys.

General maps are being made on the $\frac{1}{2500}$ scale.

Individual plots are mapped on the $\frac{1}{2500}$ scale.

The survey of Port Sudan was completed during the year. Those of Halfa, Berber, El Damar, Shendi and Gedaref are now in hand.

INDEX MAP

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE AND UGANDA



INDEX MAP



EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Governor	...	...	...	Lieutenant-Colonel Sir J. HAYES-SADLER, K.C.M.G., C.B.
Director of Surveys	...	...	...	Major G. E. SMITH, R.E.
Deputy Director of Surveys, Trigonometrical Branch.				Captain G. S. KNOX, R.E.
Deputy Director of Surveys, Cadastral Branch.				Mr. E. L. WARING.
Assistant Director of Surveys...				Lieutenant E. W. COX, R.E.

(i.) STAFF.

The present staff of the Survey Department consists of :—

Superintending Staff.

Director of Surveys.		1 Clerk.
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Trigonometrical Branch.

Deputy Director.		2 Surveyors.
Assistant Director.		Native Artizans.

Cadastral Branch.

Deputy Director.		2 Government Clerks.
Assistant Director.		2 Draughtsmen.
15 Surveyors.		6 Indian Draughtsmen.
2 Clerks.		4 Indian Surveyors.

The Trigonometrical Branch has had the assistance of Captain Stigand and Lieutenant Ward of the 1st King's African Rifles for some months during the year.

(ii.) THE WORK OF THE PAST YEAR.

Trigonometrical Branch.—Excellent progress has been made during the past year 1907–08. Starting the triangulation from the Athi base, which was completed last year, very rapid progress was ensured from the commencement.

With the longitude obtained by connection with the Anglo-German Boundary Commission's station at Elemobarasha a series was extended as shown on the accompanying diagram.

The Nyeri series covering the most thickly populated uplands is supplemented by a large number of secondary points.

The Lumbwa series follows the Rift Valley northwards to Eldama Ravine station, whence it turns westwards across the railway and joins the Sotik series measured last year. Few secondary points have been established here, as a tertiary triangulation by Mr. Ortlepp covers most of the area, and can be incorporated in the completed work.

Statement of Trigonometrical Work executed in 1906-07 and 1907-08.

	1906-07.	1907-08.
<i>Main Triangulation—</i>		
Area in square miles	1,375	7,320
Mean triangular error	2.39"	2.25"
Probable	1.61"	1.52"
Number of triangles	29	50
Number of stations	23	41
Bases measured	2	0
Latitude observed	2	0
Azimuths „	2	1
<i>Secondary Triangulation—</i>		
Area in square miles	835	3,610
Mean triangular error	4.1"	3.06"
Probable	2.8"	2.06"
Number of triangles	67	163
Number of stations	13	40
<i>Intersected Points—</i>		
Additional area covered, square miles	2,420	5,375
Reconnaissance survey, square miles	2,393	3,350
10 incomplete sheets on 1:250,000.		

In the Nyeri series the probable error in position of the final point is 4.66 feet in direction of the triangulation and 3.10 feet at right angles. For the Lumbwa series the corresponding figures are 6.48 feet and 4.32 feet.

The junction of the Lumbwa series with last year's Sotik series is of considerable interest since it completes a long chain of triangulation. The Anglo-German Boundary series connects Kisumu via Karungu and the German Boundary with Elemobarasha. Kisumu and Elemobarasha are now also connected via Lumbwa, Nairobi and Athi River.

(1.) The difference in length of the side Chemwibi-Sekauani common to the Sotik series of 1906 and the Lumbwa series 1907 is 0.397 feet in a length of 101,433.39 feet or 1 : 255,000.

(2.) The difference in azimuth between Sotik and the Lumbwa series on the same line is $15.0''$.

(3.) The difference in latitude of Chemwibi common to the two series is $2.9''$. This is not surprising as considerable local attraction might be expected at Kisumu.

The closing error in longitude on the circuit of 640 miles is $177.00''$. It is probably chiefly due to the earlier less accurate work.

Next year it is proposed to carry a series of large triangles along the line of the railway to the coast near Mombasa. From here it will be extended northwards beyond Malindi. A series along the lower Tana, and a connection with the German Government survey points in Usambara will also require attention.

Topography.—Sanction has now been obtained for the formation of a combined trigonometrical and topographical branch with an increased staff, which will enable the topographic map of the Protectorate to be commenced at once in a methodical and systematic manner.

Cost.—In 1906-7 the Sotik series of triangulation cost Rs. 31.5 per square mile. The triangulation of the Nyeri and Lumbwa series in the past year cost Rs. 10.8 per square mile, and this is expected to be about the average cost of such operations in future.

The topography in 1906-07 cost Rs. 1.1 per square mile. In 1907-08 the cost of the topographic survey was Rs. 1.5 per square mile. The areas surveyed were, however, too small to give a reliable idea of the probable average cost in future.

Cadastral Branch.—The arrears have been reduced to manageable proportions, though the vast areas of farm surveys completely blocked the way to any rapid increase in cadastral maps produced. It is hoped that all arrears will be wiped off during the next six months.

There has been a very marked reduction in the number of new applications for land this year, which may be partly explained by the uncertainty of the position of owners and occupiers while awaiting the publication of a revised Land Ordinance.

A new system of marking farms rapidly on the ground has now been introduced. The rapid settlement of any tract of country can by this means now be guaranteed.

The total staff of the cadastral branch is 32 (exclusive of licensed surveyors) of whom 21 are Europeans and 11 natives of India.

Cadastral maps of Mombasa, Nairobi and Kisumu have been commenced on the $\frac{1}{25000}$ scale. 28 sheets covering an area of 25 square miles have been completed.

Twenty-eight sheets of $\frac{1}{100000}$ series of Sotik and 9 sheets on the $\frac{1}{25000}$ scale of Kericho are in hand.

Provisional maps of Nairobi and Mombasa are already on sale to the public.

Nine hundred and fifty-three square miles of tertiary triangulation with an average triangular error of 7" were completed during the year.

The following will show the comparative costs of work per acre:—

	Cost per acre. Pence.
1. Sotik Settlement Scheme survey: 100,000 acres at a cost of £2,000 ...	= 4·80
2. Other surveys: 250,793 acres at a cost of £4,700	= 4·50
3. Mean cost of surveys by staff surveyors: total, 350,793 acres at a cost of £6,700	= 4·58
4. Cost of surveys by licensed surveyors: 511,967 acres at a cost of £3,058 ...	= 1·43
5. Mean cost of all surveys: total, 862,760 acres at a cost of £9,758 ...	= 2·71
*6. Supervision charges: total, 862,750 acres at a cost of £1,050	= 0·29

NOTE.—It should be borne in mind that the above costs include that of setting out and parting off land into the various areas required, and not the survey of existing visible boundaries.

The difference of cost between licensed surveyors' work and that of staff surveyors is chiefly due to the fact that all the best class of work, *i.e.*, the survey of open grass lands in large blocks or groups of grazing farms, free of bush or forest cutting, such as the Rift Valley grazing area, goes to licensed surveyors, whilst all isolated and difficult work, and surveys in the lower lying districts and in dense tropical jungle, have to be effected by the Government staff. Further, licensed surveyors refuse to undertake the surveys of small areas at the present schedule rates, saying that they cannot make it pay, nor are they disposed either to work in the Coast or Lake Districts.

In bush or close country the traverses worked are of a rigorous order with a limit of error considerably smaller than the 1 in 2,000 laid down.

The lineal limit of error in standard traverses in townships does not exceed 1 in 10,000.

There are 18 320-acre farms between Lumbwa and Kericho surveyed and ready for allotment, besides 100,000 acres of unoccupied land, which have been surveyed and divided into 5,000-acre units.

* The Director of Surveyors' proportion of superintendence amounts to Rs. 6,934, or £462, and is in addition to Cadastral Branch item 6 in the above statement. This amount added brings the total Supervision charges to 0·42*d.* per acre, or *census* 3.

On the Uasin Guishu plateau 107 farms have been set out, and are available for application.

Comparative Annual Statement of Lands Surveyed, April 1st, 1907, to March 31st, 1908.

Year.	Class of Land.						Total.
	Agricultural.	Grazing.	Forest and Rubber.	Fibre and Cotton.	Native Areas, Reserves, Waste Crown Lands and Provisional Surveys.	Residential and Building Plots.	
1904-5	Acres. 49,740	Acres. 526,802	Acres. 10,000	Acres. 32,000	Acres.	Acres.	Acres. 618,542
1905-6	23,277	399,413	220,869	101,974	Details not extracted.		745,533
1906-7	9,667	519,914	64,320	276,366	Areas included in totals.		870,267
1907-8	16,106	504,737	12,946	188,474*	138,125†	2,372	862,760†

* Includes:—

Fibre concessions, i.e., areas for collection of wild Sansevieria .. 162,042 acres.
Areas for Cotton cultivation 26,432 "

188,474 "

† N.B.—Total excludes 50,000 acres Uasin Guishu Plateau.

Rapid Allotment.—The system under which land is thus allocated and held is as follows:—

- Farms are marked off by properly defined, permanent and numbered beacons into approximate areas only.
- The farms are described by the permanent beacons and not by acreage.
- The allottee can have his land surveyed by a licensed surveyor or by the Government Survey Department.
- The rent fixed is subject to re-assessment eventually according to the ascertained acreage, though the acreage is nowhere stated in the occupation deed.

The rapid provisional survey is carried out with plane table at a scale of $\frac{1}{8333.33}$, or 1'014 inches to 1 mile, based on a minor triangulation, with a triangular error of some 24". The probable error in the areas so fixed has been estimated to be not greater than 1 per cent., that is to say, it would be extremely unlikely that any area would have an error greater than five per cent.

The farms dealt with on this system average about 3,000 acres. The effect of the system is to ensure that the settler is allotted his farm, with a minimum amount of delay, from a block of farms which have already been marked out. The farms will not require re-marking, and will fall naturally into the Cadastral system which will cover the more valuable parts of the Protectorate. The Committee consider that the method is well suited to meet the demands of any sudden influx of settlers.

Progress.—The progress of the Survey Department of the East Africa Protectorate has been very satisfactory during the year under review.

THE GAMBIA.

The map produced by Major E. L. Cowie, who was in charge of the British party of the Anglo-French Boundary Commission of 1904-05, covers the Colony and Protectorate as far east as $13^{\circ} 45' W$. It is on the 250000 scale, and is in two sheets. For the present the Gambia has been sufficiently well mapped.

THE GOLD COAST.

Governor	...	...	...	Sir JOHN RÖDGER, K.C.M.G.
Director of Surveys...	...	...	...	Major F. G. GUGGISBERG, R.E., C.M.G. (to 3rd January, 1908).
"	"	"	...	Captain E. F. W. LEES (from 4th January, 1908).

1. *Completion of Work on the Coast, 1907.*
2. *Mapping Work in England.*
3. *The New Department.*

1. COMPLETION OF WORK ON THE COAST, 1907.

On June 29th, 1907, the Gold Coast Survey completed six years' work in West Africa and embarked for England. In order to keep the work of the Gold Coast Colony and Ashanti up to date, arrangements were made in the 1908 Estimates for the formation of a small permanent Department which would form a nucleus should the work of demarcating the mining concessions increase at any time.

As the new department was not to start work until 1908, all stores were handed over to the Director of Works before embarkation, and arrangements were made for employment under him of the native staff.

On the voyage home 2nd Corporal E. J. Strickland, R.E., died of blackwater fever. 2nd Corporal J. W. Walsh was left in hospital at Accra with the same sickness, from which he ultimately recovered.

2. MAPPING WORK IN ENGLAND.

Offices were opened at 198, Clarence Gate Gardens immediately on landing in England and the work of producing the sheets of the 125000 map were taken in hand. No interruption in this work occurred, as had been the case in previous years, owing to constant embarkations, and by 21st May more than

three-fourths of the sheets were published, and the fair drafts of the remainder all in Messrs. W. & A. K. Johnston's hands.

A school wall map of the Gold Coast, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories was compiled and placed in Messrs. Johnston's hands for production.

The 100000 map was slightly revised and printed for inclusion in the Gold Coast Civil List. Extensive alterations are now required to bring this map up to date.

The 250000 sheets were corrected for the Topographical Section of the General Staff from the 125000 sheets.

An index of the 125000 sheets was prepared, a laborious but necessary piece of work, by Captain C. F. Sewell, late 60th Rifles, formerly Transport Officer of the Gold Coast Survey.

Captain C. B. O. Symons, R.E., reverted to regimental duty in November, 1907, after two years' valuable service with the survey. After resigning the appointment of Director of Surveys to Captain E. F. W. Lees, R.E., in January, Major Guggisberg remained on special employment under the Colonial Office to finish the map.

3. THE NEW DEPARTMENT.

On 4th January, 1908, Captain E. F. W. Lees, R.E., took over the directorship of the survey and embarked for West Africa accompanied by Corporals G. V. Mathieson, R.E., (Chief Surveyor) and R. N. Kilby, R.E. (Surveyor).

On landing at Sekondi the two last named proceeded immediately to the Ofin and Prah rivers to cut the boundaries of mining concessions and are still employed on this work. At Accra, however, Captain Lee's work in the field was brought to a standstill by the presence of plague.

4. ASHANTI.

The mapping of Ashanti is now in the hands of Lieut. E. V. M. Shelley, the Intelligence Officer. It is hoped that eight sheets on the 250000 scale will be published by the end of the year.

5. SUMMARY OF SIX YEARS' WORK.

The total expenditure on the Survey Department from June, 1901, to January, 1908, amounts to £127,500; of this £44,000 was recovered in survey fees. The average net annual expenditure was thus about £13,000.

For this sum all the gold mining concessions have been marked out and surveyed, the whole of the Gold Coast and part of Ashanti have been covered with a network of rigorous traverses, and the same area has been topographically mapped, the horizontal framework of the map being very complete. The map covers an area of about 36,000 square miles, and may be

said to represent a by-product of the main work of the Department. The Committee desire to bring to notice the excellent work of Major Guggisberg, and of those who served under him.

NORTHERN NIGERIA.

Governor ...	...	...	Colonel Sir PERCY GIROUARD, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E.
Intelligence Officer	...	...	Captain H. N. KEMPTHORNE.

The state of the Mapping of Northern Nigeria is as follows :—

The sheets of the 185000 series of the topographical section of the General Staff cover Northern Nigeria, but these sheets are now considerably out of date, and do not include the work of the recent Anglo-French Commission along the northern frontier, nor the work of the Anglo-German Commission south-westward of Yola, and are not based, as regards the centre of the country, on the results of Captain Ommanney's longitude expedition, which fixed 13 important towns and very materially altered their positions. The existing series may, in fact, be considered obsolete.

It will be seen that the major geographical framework is very complete. Unfortunately the state of the finances of the Protectorate do not admit of the expenditure of the sum necessary for carrying out a systematic geographical survey based on this framework.

A consideration which must be taken into account is, that experience demonstrates the fact that for a geographical compilation to be of value it should be carried out by those who know the country, have lived there, and are acquainted with the work of the travellers whose sketches and surveys are to be employed. The compilation should also, whenever possible, be made in the country itself.

It has, therefore, been decided that in future the compilation of the maps of Northern Nigeria shall be entrusted to the Intelligence Officer in Northern Nigeria, who will take as fixed points all places determined by Boundary Commissions, and those determined by Captain Ommanney.

The Intelligence Office, which now consists of one officer and one native draughtsman, will be strengthened by the addition of one British non-commissioned officer, and also it is hoped by the loan of the services of an officer of the West African Field Force for 10 months in the year. It has been decided that the scale of the compilation shall be 1:250,000, but as the area of the Protectorate is 256,000 square miles, and as 50 sheets are required to cover this area, it is evident that, as regards maps, Northern Nigeria will be at a disadvantage as compared with the other colonies and protectorates of British Tropical Africa for many years to come.



TELEGRAPHIC LONGITUDES.

Summary of Results.

Place.	Latitude, N.			Longitude, E.			Height above M.S.L.
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
Bauchi	10	18	54·66	9	49	27·55	2,260 feet.
Ibi	8	10	45·76	9	44	10·83	580 "
Jebba	9	07	44·92	4	49	02·25	430 "
Kano	12	00	12·00	8	32	42·29	—
Keffi	8	50	34·29	7	51	54·48	1,290 feet.
Kontagora	10	23	34·00	5	29	22·16	—
Leri... ..	10	23	16·26	8	34	19·00	2,670 feet.
Loko	7	59	51·5	7	49	51·23	350 "
Lokoja	7	48	01·2	6	44	22·95	320 "
Patigi	8	44	05·76	5	45	28·05	490 "
Yelwa	10	51	03·00	4	44	10·43	—
Zaria	11	06	10·38	7	42	57·44	2,230 feet.
Zungeru	9	48	32·4	6	09	42·26	530 "

The above longitudes were all determined telegraphically.

The heights are arrived at by combining hypsometer observations at each station with relative values obtained by readings of aneroid barometers.

LIST OF RELIABLE DETERMINATIONS OF LONGITUDE IN
AND NEAR NIGERIA (OTHER THAN TELEGRAPHIC).

Place.	Latitude, N.			Longitude, E.			REMARKS. Determination of Position and place of Observation.
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
Argungu ...	12	44	35	4	30	29	3 occultations. S.E. gate.
Beibei* ...	12	52	44	3	54	19·5	Edge of cliff 1,000 yards S. of town.
Birnin Kuka	12	27	01	3	58	39	2 occultations. East gate.
Busa	14	25	24	6	04	28·5	2 occultations. Camp N. of French post.
Dantudu ...	13	40	27	7	04	38·1	1 occultation.
Daura	13	02	16	8	24	16	1 occultation and watches from Katsena. Camp East gate of town.

* These places are connected by a line of latitudes and azimuths.

Place.	Latitude, N.			Longitude, E.			REMARKS. Determination of Position and place of Observation.
	°	'	"	°	'	"	
Illella ...	14	27	47.6	5	15	27	3 occultations. Anglo-French camp.
Junju*	12	37	20	3	31	49.4	Hill N.E. of town.
Kania	13	48	42.21	11	10	24.9	2 occultations.
Katsena	13	00	12.74	7	41	40	1 occultation. Residency.
Konni	13	47	37	5	15	48	Latitude and azimuth from Illella. N.W. corner of town.
Kukuwa	12	55	13.8	13	34	41.1	2 occultations. Centre of town agreed on by Commission.
Maikouri	13	13	43.75	8	57	06.45	3 occultations.
Matankari*	13	45	41.7	3	59	25.5	Big tree near A.-F. camp.
Sokoto (Residency).	13	02	10	5	14	41.7	12 occultations.
				5	14	46.9	Anglo - French Boundary Commission.
Chara	14	04	08	6	02	42	By watches from Busa. N.W. corner of town.
Yellu...	12	15	37	3	34	35	Captain Lang, R.E. N.W. corner of town.
Yola ...	9	12	28.9	12	29	30	Mean of German and British occultations.

* These places are connected by a line of latitudes and azimuths.

NYASALAND.

No survey work of any importance has been carried out in this Protectorate during 1907-08. A list of the maps on sale to the public will be found in the catalogue published by the Topographical Section of the General Staff.

RHODESIA.

SKETCH OF THE STATE OF THE SURVEYS.

The geodetic chain extends throughout Rhodesia to a point about 50 miles south of Lake Tanganyika. There is, however, practically no secondary or minor triangulation in Southern Rhodesia.

No organised topographical survey has yet been commenced.

The farm surveys in Southern Rhodesia vary in accuracy from compass surveys to the usual accurate cadastral plans carried out with chain and theodolite.

The farm surveys in North-Eastern Rhodesia are carried out by surveyors (nominated by the Administrator), by trigonometric methods. Surveys of large properties by chain, stadiometer, tacheometer, or compass are not permitted to be used for the issue of the final title.

In North-Western Rhodesia an area of 15 miles round the Victoria Falls has been surveyed.

COMPILATIONS.

The Surveyor-General of Southern Rhodesia is undertaking the compilation, from farm plans and other sources, of a general map of Southern Rhodesia. This map will be published on a scale of $\frac{1}{250000}$. Some sheets of this series have been sent home and are now being reproduced.

SIERRA LEONE.

Governor LESLIE PROBYN, Esq., C.M.G.
General Officer Commanding... Major-General J. K. TROTTER,
C.B., C.M.G.

There is no survey department.

The General Officer Commanding is causing a survey to be carried out of that portion of the Colony adjacent to Freetown. The results of the survey are being embodied in the existing sheets of the $\frac{1}{250000}$ series, which will be greatly improved in consequence. For a list of the published maps of Sierra Leone the catalogue published by the Topographical Section of the General Staff should be consulted.

SOUTH AFRICA.

GENERAL REVIEW OF THE SURVEYS.

The Survey Departments.—The Colonial Survey Committee is not concerned with the surveys of the South Africa Colonies, except in so far as Imperial interests are involved. Each Colony has a Survey Department administered by a Surveyor-General.

These Surveys Departments, are in effect, land record departments. The farms are surveyed by licensed surveyors and plans and records of the farms are left in the Surveyor-General's office. For purposes of land registration the system is an efficient one. The farm plans as a rule show only what is necessary for the definition of property boundaries; each farm is surveyed independently, and from the nature of the case little attention is paid to the delineation of the hill features.

The Geodetic Triangulation.—See p. 42.

Imperial requirements.—The chief Imperial requirement is the provision of topographical maps for the defence of the Colonies. The matter has not been directly before the Colonial Survey Committee; the information which follows having been furnished by the War Office.

State of the Topographical Maps of South Africa.—The production of topographical maps is proceeding in the Cape Colony and in the Orange River Colony. A sketch of Basutoland is being carried out and now approaches completion.

The total area completed in the field in the Cape Colony, the Orange River Colony and Basutoland amounts to about 90,000 square miles.

No topographical maps exist of Natal or of the Transvaal, and no such maps are being produced.

Compilation Maps are those fitted together from farm surveys. Of this nature are the Cape Colony district maps and the "Degree Sheets" of the Transvaal on the scale of 2·37 miles to 1 inch, produced during the War under the superintendence of Colonel H. M. Jackson, A.A.G. for Topography. The Degree Sheets of the Transvaal are still the only general maps of that Colony available; they serve to give farm names, but are misleading as regards hill features.

THE CAPE COLONY.

Progress.—The work of the reconnaissance surveys has made steady progress during the past year.

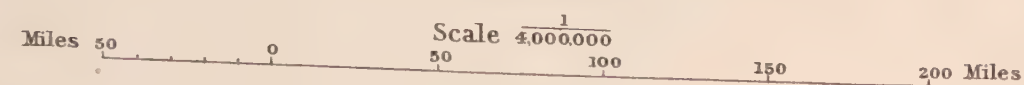
Since 31st March, 1907, an area of 17,000 square miles has been completed in the field, bringing the total area surveyed since the commencement of the reconnaissance work up to 58,000 square miles.

Of the above, seven sheets, on a scale of $\frac{1}{250000}$, representing an area of 19,000 square miles, have now been published.

Six parties, each consisting of one seconded and one temporarily attached officer, and the necessary transport, were

INDEX
to the sheets of
SOUTH AFRICAN TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEYS

on scales of $\frac{1}{250,000}$ and $\frac{1}{125,000}$



REFERENCE

Work in progress.....
Field sheets completed.....
Sheets published.....
Red names show names of sheets

The sheets on the scale of $\frac{1}{125,000}$
are numbered thus: 129-B-III



employed in the field up to the beginning of November, after which date the parties were reduced to three. The seconded officers employed during the past year were—

Captain H. S. P. SIMON, D.C.L.I.
„ C. W. GORDON, North. Fusiliers.
„ A. B. JOHNSON, Linc. Regt.
„ R. B. HOPKINS, Manch. Regt.
„ T. S. N. HARDINGE, R.G.A.
Lieut. R. A. REDDIE, 16th Lancers.

The work was in charge of Captain C. G. W. Hunter, R.E., up to March last, and is now in charge of Captain G. F. Evans, R.E.

In the two years during which Captain Hunter had charge the reconnaissance surveys have been thoroughly well organized, and excellent progress has been made.

THE ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

The Topographical Survey of the Orange River Colony which is being carried out by the Colonial Survey Section under the command of Captain L. C. Jackson, R.E., has made excellent progress during the past year.

Since the 1st June, 1907, an area of 7,300 square miles has been completed in the field, bringing the total area surveyed in detail in the field to 19,448 square miles.

The whole of this detailed work is based upon a secondary triangulation extended from the primary geodetic triangulation.

The average daily output of the Section since the commencement of the survey has been 21.62 square miles.

The mean triangular error during the year was 2.6".

The closing errors in a chain of secondary triangulation 100 miles in length were 0.030" in latitude and 0.020" in longitude.

The Section is now employed in the very broken country along the Basutoland border, between Ficksburg and Harrismith.

Here roads are few and difficult, and in many parts quite impassable for wheeled transport. The prevalence of fog and mist on the high ground also adds greatly to the difficulties of the survey.

Captain Jackson will complete his tenure of appointment in August of the present year. He will have carried out the topographical survey of nearly half the Colony. Great credit is due to this officer for the ability and energy with which this important survey has been conducted, and for the rapidity and accuracy of its execution.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Governor	...	...	...	Sir WALTER EGERTON,
				K.C.M.G.
Director of Surveys	...	...	...	Mr. E. P. COTTON.

(i.) STAFF.

The Department consists of :—

The Director of Surveys.
 6 European Surveyors.
 6 Native Surveyors and Draughtsmen.
 4 Native Students.

(ii.) COST OF THE DEPARTMENT.

The estimated expenditure of the Survey Department for 1908 is £10,359, and of the Land Office £6,088.

(iii.) MAPS ISSUED DURING THE PAST YEAR.

Five provisional skeleton maps on the scale of $\frac{1}{250,000}$ have been published by reduction. These maps cover most of the Western Province, and embrace an area of about 20,000 square miles. They exhibit all the traverses carried out by the Survey Department, and are, in fact, the framework upon which the complete topographical map of the Western Province will be based. Detailed instructions as to the preparation of the final maps have been issued. If these maps, which will be on the scale of $\frac{1}{125,000}$, are found to be satisfactory, it will be desirable to continue the present rate of expenditure on surveys so as to complete the topographical survey of the whole of Southern Nigeria. With the present staff the average out-turn per annum should be about 8,000 square miles.

UGANDA.

Governor	...	...	Sir H. HESKETH BELL, K.C.M.G.
Director of Surveys	...	...	Mr. R. C. ALLEN.

(i.) DUTIES OF THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

The Survey Department is, at present, charged with the following duties :—

- (a) The execution of cadastral plans of Buganda (the new name for the Province of Uganda).

(b) The production of a topographical map of Buganda on a scale of $\frac{1}{125000}$.

(c) Miscellaneous surveys for engineering purposes.

It is in contemplation to relieve the Survey Department of duties (b) and (c), in order that it may devote itself entirely to the execution of cadastral plans, which are required for the allotment of estates to chiefs and native landowners in accordance with the Uganda Agreement of 1900. The rate of progress of the cadastral survey has been slower than was anticipated, partly on account of the necessity of providing surveyors for miscellaneous duties. The cost of the Land and Survey Department for 1907-08 was £5,561.

(ii.) THE WORK OF THE SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

An area of 1,900 square miles has been covered with the main triangulation during the past year, the mean triangular error being 4.5". It will not be necessary to undertake any more triangulation of this character for some years.

Secondary triangulation, covering an area of 607 square miles, has been completed in the field. Mean triangular error 5.4".

The total area of topographical survey on the scale of $\frac{1}{125000}$ carried out during the past year was 1,575 square miles, a satisfactory output for two surveyors.

Two hundred and seventy-eight square miles of detailed cadastral survey on the scale of $\frac{1}{100000}$ were completed, and 15 square miles on the scale of $\frac{1}{25000}$. A considerable number of miscellaneous surveys were carried out.

The Committee consider that the Survey Department under Mr. Allen has done good work during the year under review. There can be little doubt that it will be sound policy to concentrate the energies of the Department on the Cadastral Survey.

NOTE.—The above paragraphs refer to the work carried out for the year ending 31st March, 1908.

The field sheets of two of the $\frac{1}{125000}$ maps have been received, and are now being reproduced. These sheets are 86 U.I. and 86 U. III., covering an area of 2,500 square miles.

(iii.) UGANDA RAILWAY EXTENSION SURVEY.

Important topographical surveys which have been carried out during the year under review are those which have been executed independently of the Survey Department, as part of the work of the Uganda Railway Extension Survey which is being carried out under Captain A. G. Stevenson, D.S.O., R.E.

Lieut. C. E. Fishbourne, R.E., assisted by two non-commissioned officers, has been engaged in mapping the region between Lake Victoria and the north of Lake Choga. The progress of the work and its accuracy are both very satisfactory. Three field sheets have so far been completed, covering an area of 2,500 square miles.

(iv.) SURVEYS OF THE SOUTH, SOUTH-WEST AND EAST SHORES OF LAKE ALBERT.

As an addition to the work of surveying the Anglo-Congolese boundary zone to the west of Uganda, Lieut.-Colonel R. Bright, C.M.G., has been engaged in surveying the south, south-west and east shores of Lake Albert. This survey will be valuable, not only for the consideration of boundary questions, but also in the discussion of schemes of railway extension. The field sheets cover an area of about 9,000 square miles. They will form an important contribution to our knowledge of the geography of Uganda.

(v.) SUMMARY.

The Survey Department has topographically surveyed 1,575 square miles, and has been pursuing its laborious task of mapping the Buganda estates; the Anglo-Congolese Boundary Commission has completed the mapping of the boundary zone, and has surveyed 9,000 square miles of that region; the Railway Extension Survey has surveyed lines for the continuation of the Uganda Railway, and has also mapped 2,500 square miles of the Lake Choga region; and finally Commander Whitehouse's map of Lake Victoria has been plotted and adjusted to the Anglo-German Commission maps, with which it is in excellent agreement. All this work is based on sound triangulation, and it may be said that greater progress has been made in surveying Uganda during the past year than in any previous year.

V.

REPORT ON THE SURVEYS

OF

CEYLON and the FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

CEYLON.

Governor	...	...	...	Col. Sir H. E. McCallum, R.E., G.C.M.G., A.D.C.
Surveyor-General	...	...	...	P. D. Warren, Esq., C.M.G.

- (i.) *Historical Sketch.*
- (ii.) *Existing State of the Surveys.*
- (iii.) *Existing State of the Maps.*
- (iv.) *Organization.*
- (v.) *Inspection of the Department.*

(i.) HISTORICAL SKETCH.

Up to the year 1897 the Ceylon Survey Department worked upon the so-called "Application" system, viz., the system of surveying isolated patches of land, as required for Land Office purposes, without any general scheme of work, and for the most part unconnected with any system of triangulation. The cost of the work was enormous and its accuracy questionable. No sort of topographical survey had been attempted, and the only map of the island existing in 1897 was one chiefly based upon a sketch map made by Colonel Fraser in the early part of the nineteenth century.

The result of this system, or rather want of system, was not only that the cost of so-called survey was enormous and the resulting maps almost valueless, but also, owing to the absence of any cadastral maps, the "Crown lands and forests were being eaten away and devastated by encroachment, and were slowly but surely disappearing."*

It was realised that this state of affairs was highly unsatisfactory, not, however, it may be noted, until vast sums had been wasted, and Colonel T. H. Holdich, R.E., of the Survey Department of India was invited to visit Ceylon and report on the whole subject. His report contained many valuable suggestions,

* Sir J. West Ridgeway to Colonial Office, 1st June, 1897.

some of which were acted upon. He recommended that the triangulation should be improved and re-computed—that a systematic topographical survey, upon the Indian model, should be at once initiated—that the cadastral work should be taken up systematically in blocks—that the Indian practice of dividing the year's work into a definite field season and a recess should be adopted—and that certain reductions should be made in the higher grades of the Department.

In 1898 the first "Waste Lands Ordinance," providing for the definitive and final delimitation of the boundaries of Crown lands and the prevention of further encroachments, was passed. This measure compelled the provision of an accurate land map for each village as its turn came to be "settled" under the Ordinance. The "Block" survey system was accordingly started. The term block survey is peculiar to Ceylon and requires definition; it is a survey which delimits the boundaries between cultivated and uncultivated land, but does not concern itself with boundaries or features inside an area of cultivation. It is thus designed to meet the special requirements of the Waste Lands Ordinance. It is not a cadastral survey in the usual meaning of the term, but if executed systematically and accurately it is capable of conversion into a cadastral survey at no very great expenditure. Unfortunately, during several years this work was executed upon unsystematic and inaccurate methods, and it was not until 1905, when the 4 chains to 1 inch block survey was started, that any work of a really permanent nature was done.

(ii.) EXISTING STATE OF THE SURVEYS.

The triangulation of Ceylon is connected with the Indian series by means of the measured base on the island of Delft, off the north-western coast. The differences of longitude between Madras and Colombo and Madras and Jaffna have been determined by the Indian Survey. The astronomical latitude of Colombo has a residual uncertainty of about 3 seconds of arc and is now being re-observed. The principal triangulation over the island is of a fair order of accuracy; there still remains to be done a large quantity of secondary and tertiary triangulation. Owing to the "hand to mouth" system of work vast numbers of points have been observed and lost again through not being properly marked, or through the observations not being systematically recorded.

Block survey is in progress at many points in the island.

A sort of topographical survey has been prosecuted since Colonel Holdich's visit, but it was started on methods contrary to all his recommendations, with the result that 10 years' work has been practically wasted. At the present moment there is no topographical map in the usual acceptance of the term, of any part of the island, except a small area done for railway extension purposes.

(iii.) EXISTING STATE OF THE MAPS.

None of the block survey work is published, except in the form of village plans for settlement purposes. As no topographical survey exists the general maps of the island are compilations from material of varying order of merit; of these the following have been published by the Department :—

Map of the Island of Ceylon—

4 miles to 1 inch	...	...	...	1876
4 " 1 "	...	...	...	1881
4 " 1 "	...	...	...	1900
4 " 1 "	...	...	...	1907
8 " 1 "	...	...	...	1900
12 " 1 "	...	...	...	1906
16 " 1 "	...	...	...	1906

Topographical survey (in progress)—

1 mile to 1 inch. 73 sheets issued up to December, 1907.

(This, as stated above, is not correctly described as a topographical map. It contains, for instance, no representation of the shape of the ground.)

Various plans of towns and municipal districts—

Kandy, Trincomalee, Colombo, Galle, Diyatalawa.

(iv.) ORGANIZATION.

The Survey Department is a branch of the Civil Service, all the higher posts being permanent and pensionable. No officers are employed in it. The field surveyors are all natives of Ceylon.

(v.) INSPECTION OF THE DEPARTMENTS.

In Colonel Holdich's report he made a recommendation, which was accepted and acted upon, for a gradual reduction in the numbers and final extinction of the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Surveys. The abolition of this grade seriously embarrassed the Department, and as the Waste Lands Ordinance and the agricultural development of the island, largely in the direction of rubber planting, had so changed the conditions since Colonel Holdich's visit, it was judged advisable to make another independent inspection.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies accordingly deputed Major E. H. Hills, C.M.G., R.E., to inspect and report. Major Hills arrived in the island on 26th April, 1907, and submitted a report dated 6th June, 1907.

In this report it was pointed out that the changed condition of affairs necessitated a reversal of the policy of extinction of the grade of Assistant Superintendent. The fact that Sir T. Holdich's recommendations, as regards the topographical survey,

had been so entirely set aside was commented upon, and a new series of recommendations, for the accomplishment of this important work, were formulated. Suggestions were made as to improvements in the system of discipline of the native staff, for the completion of the tertiary triangulation and for the prosecution of lines of levelling, and for various improvements in method for the block survey and cadastral work. It was also pointed out that there was still substantial danger of waste and inaccuracy, owing to small incomplete parties being at work; and the general lines of a possible enlargement of the department was foreshadowed in the event of the Government deciding to hasten the waste lands settlement.

The great improvement in accuracy and the marked diminution in cost rates that had taken place during the latter few years was favourably noticed.

All Major Hills's recommendations were approved by the Colonial Survey Committee and were accepted by the Governor and the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It is hoped that they will all be given effect to by the end of 1908.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Resident-General ... Sir W. T. TAYLOR, K.C.M.G.

- (i.) *Historical Sketch.*
- (ii.) *Existing State of the Surveys.*
- (iii.) *Existing State of the Maps.*
- (iv.) *Organisation.*
- (v.) *Inspection of the Department.*

(i.) HISTORICAL SKETCH.

In the early days of the Protectorate the survey of Perak formed part of the Public Works Department.

In 1883 Mr. H. J. Deane, a contract surveyor in Ceylon, was engaged to visit the State and report. Mr. Deane toured the country, ascending several of the most lofty peaks, and made sufficient observations to compile the existing material into the first map of Perak on the scale of 4 miles to 1 inch.

As the result of his report Mr. Deane's services were engaged to carry out the triangulation of Perak. He measured the Larut base, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, with deal rods, working almost single-handed, and started a series of triangles, observing the angles with an 8-inch vernier theodolite by Elliott.

By 1887 this triangulation extended over the districts of Larut and Kuala Kangsar.

Mr. G. A. Lefroy was then placed in charge of the Department as Chief Surveyor, and it was separated from the Public Works. Shortly after this the nucleus of the present Perak Land and Revenue Survey Department was formed under the Commissioner of Lands.

Mr. Lefroy re-measured the Larut base, and in 1892, when Mr. A. E. Young, the present Chief Surveyor, joined the service, had extended the triangulation over about half the State. In 1893 it was decided to re-observe the angles at all major stations with 8-inch micrometer theodolites, a work which was mainly entrusted to Mr. F. W. Irby.

By the end of 1895 this had been almost completed up to the Selangor boundary, where it had been arranged to close on a check base, when owing to Mr. Lefroy's retirement all field operations were stopped. Work was not resumed until the end of 1896 when, on the retirement of Mr. F. W. Mais, the acting Chief Surveyor, Mr. A. E. Young, was appointed officer-in-charge. The task of reducing the whole triangulation by least squares and co-ordinating all the minor work and standard traverses, a large quantity of which had been undertaken to meet urgent Land Office requirements, was at once initiated. This was completed in 1898.

In 1896 Colonel W. G. Morris, R.E., was invited to make a report on the Perak survey. He accordingly did so, and his report contained many valuable suggestions. He had, however, no knowledge of the country, and only access to a portion of the survey records. It was suggested by him that the only satisfactory procedure would be for a competent officer to proceed to the country and draw up a complete report and programme for future work. It is somewhat unfortunate that the proposal was not acted upon.

In 1899 Mr. Young was made Chief Surveyor, and was ordered to continue the triangulation through Selangor and Negri Sembilan. By 1901 this work had been completed over the whole of Selangor and closed on the check base. In this year the services of the most competent surveyors were lost so that the triangulation was not finally extended over the small State of Negri Sembilan until 1904. In 1905 operations were commenced in Pahang, and a chain of major triangulation covering the middle half of the State was carried through to the east coast, and closed on a 25-mile traverse line at the end of 1907.

During the time this work was in progress, revenue or cadastral survey work was actively carried on in the four States. The Perak Revenue Survey Department was formed in 1888; the Selangor Department in 1889, and those of Negri Sembilan and Pahang in 1899. The work of these bodies has been chiefly that of surveying the boundary of alienated lands. Owing to the very rapid mining and agricultural development of the country the

triangulation has hardly kept pace with the cadastral work, which still depends in a large measure on lay traverses connected with the trigonometrical points only at considerable intervals.

The Revenue Survey Departments have also collected a certain amount of topographical information, chiefly in the more settled districts, which have been compiled into maps.

(ii.) EXISTING STATE OF THE SURVEYS.

The longitude of Penang was determined by the Admiralty Hydrographic Survey in 1893 by telegraphic exchange with Singapore.

The latitude of Taiping has been satisfactorily determined by the Trigonometrical Survey.

The triangulation is now completed over the whole of Perak Selangor and Negri Sembilan, and over the central belt of Pahang. There remains to be done a certain amount of secondary and a considerable amount of tertiary triangulation.

The average triangular error of the principal and secondary work is 3.5 seconds of arc.

No topographical survey has been done.

A large amount of good cadastral work has been done in Perak and Selangor, and a small quantity in Negri Sembilan and Pahang. The work is in the form of traverses along roads and round public or private boundaries, and, in general, the preparation of accurate property plans for attachment to title deeds and for all Land Office purposes. The compilation of general cadastral sheets is carried on *pari passu*.

(iii.) EXISTING STATE OF THE MAPS.

These are all compilations based upon the trigonometrical points and the traverses of the Revenue surveys filled in with topographical detail collected by both departments.

The following have been published :—

Perak	4 miles to 1 inch	... 1891.
Selangor	2 „ 1 „	... 1904.
Negri Sembilan	2 „ 1 „	... Under publication.

(iv.) ORGANIZATION.

The surveys are at present organized into five separate departments, a Federal Trigonometrical Survey under a Chief Surveyor responsible to the Resident-General, and four Revenue Survey Departments, one in each of the States—Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang. The Revenue surveys are under the orders of the respective Residents, but for the purpose of harmonising the work they are all placed under the general

supervision of a Federal officer, the Commissioner of Lands and Surveys. No officers are employed. The lower grades are staffed by Malays.

(v.) INSPECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

In 1906 very large arrears of Revenue survey work had accumulated while, at the same time, great difficulty was experienced in getting competent men to fill vacancies in the staff. For these and other reasons it was considered desirable that an independent inspection of the department should be made, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies deputed Major E. H. Hills, C.M.G., R.E., to visit the country and report upon the whole question. Major Hills arrived at Penang on 13th June, 1907, and submitted a report dated 16th July, 1907.

In this report it was in the first place strongly urged that the existing arrangement of separate Revenue Survey Departments in each State was highly unsatisfactory, and that the first reform should be to amalgamate these together with the trigonometrical survey into one department under a competent Surveyor-General.

Various recommendations were made as to the pay and status of the survey staff, and as to the recruitment, training and pay of natives employed. Owing to the approaching completion of the principal triangulation, it was pointed out that a convenient opportunity offered for starting a systematic topographical survey, and it was recommended that two selected members of the staff should be sent to India to go through a six months' training in plane table work in a forest country.

Certain alterations of method in the Revenue survey work were suggested, and it was pointed out that the formation of a Federal Survey Department would call for the erection of head-quarter survey offices at Kuala Lumpur.

Major Hills's main recommendation was at once accepted by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the new post of Surveyor-General was offered to and accepted by Colonel H. M. Jackson, R.E. It is hoped that he will take up his duties in August, 1908. In the meantime, while the other recommendations in the report are concurred in by the Colonial Survey Committee, it has been thought better to recommend to the Secretary of State that their translation into action should be deferred until the new Surveyor-General shall have had time to make himself acquainted with the conditions, and until the new department shall have been fully constituted.

VI.

GEODESY.

The Geodetic Triangulation of South Africa, which has been entirely paid for by the Colonies concerned and by the British South Africa Company, has reached a stage of practical completion. The geodetic triangulations of the Transvaal, the Orange River Colony, and Basutoland are complete (those of the Cape Colony and Natal were finished as far back as the year 1892), and the arc of the 30° meridian has been measured as far north as a point within 70 miles of Lake Tanganyika. The final volume of results is now in the press. The execution of this great triangulation is chiefly due to Sir David Gill, who initiated the work and has been for 25 years responsible for the general control and supervision of it. The actual carrying out of the work in the field has been throughout in the hands of Colonel Sir William Morris, assisted by a competent staff.

The Arc of the 30° Meridian to the West of Uganda is now being measured. It was pointed out to various Learned Societies that the presence of the Anglo-Congolese Boundary Commission in the region in question afforded a very favourable opportunity for the measurement of $2\frac{1}{2}$ degrees of the arc at comparatively small expense. As a result the Royal Society, the Royal Geographical Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, and the British Association approached the Secretary of State for the Colonies with an offer of a sum of £1,000 towards the expenses of the undertaking. The offer was accepted, and after some correspondence with the Government of the Congo Free State, it was decided to organize a joint measurement of the arc from 1° S. latitude to about $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N. latitude. The British Government appointed Mr. G. T. McCaw as observer, and the Congo Government M. Dehalu. The operation is under the general control of the Boundary Commissioners or their representatives, and its success will very largely depend on the weather.

VII.

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS.

LAKE VICTORIA.

Instructions for the survey of the southern portion of Lake Victoria, which lies in German East Africa, were given to Commander Whitehouse, R.N., in April, 1902.

He was assisted by Mr. C. S. Hunter, Civil Engineer, of the Uganda Railway Staff, who remained at work till incapacitated by illness at Nassa (Speke Gulf) in July, 1904.

The field work lasted from 21st August, 1902, to 18th June, 1906, with a recess of five months from April, 1903, and another of three months from April, 1905. These breaks were due in each case to the effect which the work and climate had on Commander Whitehouse's health, making it imperative for him to return for a time to England.

The main survey was on a scale of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to one geographical mile. Harbours and roadsteads were surveyed on scales up to 12 inches to one mile.

Large additions were made during the work, as opportunity offered, to the survey of the northern portion of the Lake.

The triangulation round the south shores of the Lake was calculated (after the field work was completed), and as the terminal points were also points in the triangulation of the Anglo-German Boundary Commission round the north end of Lake Victoria, a good opportunity of checking the probable accuracy of the survey was afforded.

The difference in position of station Mizinda, calculated by the two series from the same starting station, Mohuru, was only 3.27 seconds in latitude and 0.86 seconds in longitude.

This is a very satisfactory result. The detail of the present chart cannot be considered exhaustive, but it will probably be some time before the traffic on the lake has so increased as to make more detailed surveying necessary.

VI.
CLASSIFIED LISTS OF THE STAFFS OF THE SURVEY DEPARTMENTS.

Office.	Name.	Salary. £	Allowances.	Tenure of Appointment.	Date of present Appointment.
NYASALAND.					
Director of Public Works and Survey.	T. J. Binnie	... 450-600, by £25.	£100 personal	Permanent	1st Dec., 1900.
Assistant Surveyor	T. J. Firr	... 325-425, by £20.	£12 10s. electric light.	"	25th May, 1902.
"	J. Bannerman	... 250-325, by £15.	"	"	1st June, 1901.
"	G. N. Beaumont	... 200-300, by £10.	"	3 years' agreement	5th Dec., 1905.
Clerk	E. Taylor	... 200-300, by £10.	£20 subsistence	...	6th July, 1906.
"	H. R. Cruise	... "	"	...	25th Oct., 1906.
EAST AFRICA.					
<i>Superintending Staff.</i>					
Director of Surveys	Major G. E. Smith, R.E.	... 800	...	3 years	...
Clerk and Storekeeper	Mr. A. Rehm	... 250	...	...	4th Jan., 1906.
<i>Trigonometrical Branch.</i>					
Deputy Director of Surveys	Capt. G. S. Knox, R.E.	... 667	...	3 years	16th March, 1906.
Assistant	Lieut. E. W. Cox, R.E.	... 525	...	"	16th March, 1906.

COLONIAL SURVEY REPORT:
LISTS OF STAFFS.

Surveyor	...	...	...	Coy. Sgt.-Major H. Cox, R.E.	285	...	...	...	16th March, 1906.
"	...	...	...	Corpl. W. Macdonald, R.E.	215	...	...	...	28th April, 1906.
<i>Cadastral Branch</i>									
Deputy Director of Surveys ...	...	...	...	Mr. E. L. Waring	500	...	...	...	1st April, 1906.
Assistant " ...	...	...	...	Mr. A. E. Townsend	400	...	...	...	August, 1906.
District Surveyor ...	...	...	...	Mr. T. H. Galbraith	360	...	...	3 years	14th July, 1904.
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. J. P. Clark ...	360	...	...	...	—
Senior Staff Surveyor	...	...	...	Mr. F. M. Lamb	300	...	...	3 years	15th July, 1904.
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. L. H. Lloyd	300	...	...	3 years	—
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. G. Woodruff	300	...	...	...	—
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. W. Nighingale	300	...	...	...	—
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. J. T. Stiles...	300	...	...	...	1st April, 1908.
Junior Staff Surveyor	...	...	...	Mr. F. Lind	250	...	...	...	—
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. F. Smythe ...	250	...	...	...	—
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. J. Marsengo	250	...	...	...	—
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. J. Spalding...	250	...	...	3 years	27th Sept., 1907.
" " " ...	...	...	...	Mr. D. G. Crofts	250	...	...	...	—
Chief Computer and Examiner	...	...	...	Mr. Panting	200	£40 house allowance	...	...	—
Clerk and Accountant	...	...	...	Mr. G. Bunting...	175	" "	...	...	—
Assistant Clerk and Accountant.	...	...	...	Mr. W. T. West	140	" "	...	...	4th July, 1908.
GOLD COAST.									
Director of Surveys ...	...	...	...	Capt. E. F. W. Lees	700	£140 duty allowance, £36 horse allowance.	Pensionable, 3 years on probation.	...	4th Jan., 1908.
Chief Surveyor	...	...	...	L.-Corpl. G. V. Mathieson, R.E.	400	£80 duty allowance, £36 horse allowance.	" "	" "	" "
Surveyor	...	...	...	2nd Corpl. R. N. Kilby, R.E....	250-10-300	Horse allowance £36	" "	" "	" "

Office.	Name.	Salary. £	Allowances.	Tenure of Appointment.	Date of present Appointment.
GOLD COAST— <i>continued</i> .					
1 Native Surveyor ...	J. B. Esuwan-Gwira ...	200-10-250	£9 bicycle allowance	3 years on pro- bation. Pensionable.	1 Jan., 1908.
2 Native Assistant Surveyors { (2nd Class) ...	E. J. Smith ...	120-5-150	"		
1 Native Draughtsman ...	T. H. Vaughan ...	120-5-150	"		
1 4th Grade Clerk ...	R. Josiah ...	60-5-80	...		
SOUTHERN NIGERIA.					
Director of Surveys ...	Mr. E. P. Cotton ...	700	£100 duty allowance	Pensionable	29th Oct., 1906.
Deputy Director of Surveys...	Mr. A. Cleminson ...	400-500, by £20.	£80 duty allowance	"	1st Jan., 1907.
Senior Surveyor ...	Vacant ...	...	...	"	—
2 Surveyors ...	Mr. F. W. H. Black ...	300-400, by £20.	...	"	1st Jan., 1908.
3 Temporary Surveyors	Mr. R. A. Webb ...	350	...	Non - pensionable, by agreement.	17th Oct., 1905.
	Mr. R. L. Dronyn ...		...		
Draughtsman ...	Mr. E. N. Thomas ...	350	...	"	16th May, 1908.
	Mr. J. Scott ...		...	"	6th June, 1908.
	Mr. W. J. F. Lomax ...		...	"	13th Oct., 1906.
UGANDA.					
Director of Surveys ...	Mr. R. C. Allen...	500-700, by £25.	...	...	30th Nov., 1900.
Deputy Director of Surveys...	Mr. W. V. Morris ...	325-425, by £20.	...	...	27th July, 1902.

COLONIAL SURVEY REPORT:
LIST OF STAFFS.

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Senior Surveyor	...	...	Mr. E. Richardson	...	...	360-20-400	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged for 3 years).	8th April, 1904.
"	...	...	Mr. E. G. Fenning	...	...	360-20-400	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged).	18th April, 1904.
"	...	...	Mr. L. R. Fraser	...	...	360-20-400	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged).	18th April, 1904.
Junior Surveyor	...	...	Mr. L. M. Seth-Smith	...	...	300	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged).	3rd June, 1904.
"	...	...	Mr. A. Richardson	...	...	300	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged for 30 months).	1st June, 1903.
"	...	...	Mr. J. T. W. S. McGregor	...	...	300	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged for 3 years).	17th July, 1903.
"	...	...	Mr. H. Boazman	...	...	350	...	...	...	3 years' agreement (Re-engaged for 30 months, 12/2/07).	17th July, 1903.
"	...	...	Mr. J. P. Tolland	...	...	300	...	...	...	3 years' agreement from date of arrival in Africa (not re- ported).	—
"	...	...	Mr. A. H. Gee	...	...	300	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. E. J. Goulston	...	...	300	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. V. F. Mayne	...	...	300	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. A. C. Willmott	...	...	300	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. H. J. Woram	...	...	285	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. A. J. Jones	...	...	215	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. W. Richardson	...	...	215	...	...	...	"	—
"	...	...	Mr. J. Rimmer	...	...	215	...	...	...	"	—

Name.	Appointment.	Salary. £	Date of Appointment.		
CEYLON.					
P. D. Warren ... R. S. Templeton...	Surveyor-General ... Assistant Surveyor-General ...	Rs. 13,812 Rs. 9,900	23rd June, 1904. 23rd June, 1904.		
L. Shipton ... C. B. P. Meadon... G. R. Thornhill ... A. H. G. Dawson ...	Superintendents of Surveys ...	400-25-450	4th May, 1907. 1st Oct. 1907. ? 1st Jan., 1908.		
D. Bloxham ... C. H. Vince ... H. M. C. Ledger...			Assistant Superintendents of Surveys ...	5th Oct., 1907. ? 12th June, 1908. ? 12th June, 1908. ? 12th June, 1908. ? July, 1908.	
E. B. Manson ... F. J. Salmon ... J. A. Loram ...				Assistant Superintendents of Surveys ...	22nd May, 1908. 22nd May, 1908. 22nd May, 1908. 5th June, 1908. 5th June, 1908. 5th June, 1908.
H. W. Johnson ... E. E. O'Leary ... P. B. Lynch ... J. Reid ... F. E. Dainty ... G. A. Robertson ...					Assistant Superintendents of Surveys ...
FEDERATED MALAY STATES.					
E. C. P. Clare (promotion) Bt. Col. H. M. Jackson...	District Surveyor, Negri Sembilan Surveyor-General ...	420 1,200	? 20th Nov., 1907. Aug., 1908.		

49

	From New South Wales	1st Grade Revenue Surveyors	
M. Olphert	...	...	...
R. V. Morris	...	...	...
H. E. Winckler	...	...	...
W. A. Gummer	...	...	...
O. Krook	...	...	...
A. Cochran	...	...	...
A. Schreiber	...	...	...
— Clarke	...	...	...
— Toft	...	...	...
J. Griffiths	...	...	...
W. S. Sloan	...	...	...
T. Y. Bremner	...	...	...

30th Nov., 1907.
22nd Feb., 1908.
29th Feb., 1908.

420

? Feb., 1908.

11th April, 1908.
25th April, 1908.

330-360

? Jan., 1908.

This salary, which is lower than that of a 1st Grade Revenue Surveyor, has been given as Mr. Bremner is not fully qualified.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from
the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
531	Sierra Leone	1906
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
47	Do. do.	Do. 1905-6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies	Cultivation of Cotton.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration
52	South Africa	Native Education.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 564.

ASHANTI.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 523.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
July, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd 3729-28.] Price 2*s.*

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No. 564.

ASHANTI.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 523.)

The GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Accra,

1st June, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Ashanti Annual Report for the year 1907, and to explain that the delay in transmission was caused by the absence of certain financial returns.

2. Dealing, seriatim, with the various headings of this Report, I would offer the following observations:—

ADMINISTRATION.

The division of Ashanti into Provinces and Districts, as in the Colony, has been successfully carried out, and has effected a marked improvement in the administration.

POLITICAL.

The friendly relations between British officials and native chiefs have been well maintained, and the manner in which the chiefs are now interesting themselves in the agricultural and commercial development of their divisions, under the guidance of Provincial and District Commissioners, is very satisfactory.

The “Abirewa” fetish, referred to in paragraph 8, has already formed the subject of local correspondence, and is being kept under careful supervision. When Mr. Fuller returns from leave, however, I will call for a special report on this new fetish, as I am inclined to think that it will be advisable to suppress it altogether.

JUDICIAL.

The decrease in the number of criminal cases, as compared with that of the previous year, although the number of such cases is still somewhat large at Obuassi, tends to show an increasing respect for law and order.

LEGISLATION.

The Ordinance regulating the importation into Ashanti, under strict conditions, of trade guns and gunpowder has proved thoroughly successful, as it has not merely satisfied the legitimate requirements of the natives, but has also very materially reduced the smuggling, formerly prevalent, from adjoining territories.

The system of imposing tolls on all produce and goods passing between Ashanti and the Colony, unfortunately established at the beginning of the year, was abolished in November.

MILITARY.

The question of converting one of the six Ashanti companies of the Gold Coast Regiment into a Pioneer Company, to consist of men trained in road, bridge, and building work, is now under consideration.

VOLUNTEERS.

The volunteer movement made good progress during the year under review.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Mainly owing to the special military expenditure required, the actual revenue of Ashanti cannot be expected, for some years to come, to meet the actual expenditure; but, for financial as well as administrative purposes, the Colony and its Dependencies must be treated as a whole, and every development in the hinterland increases, directly or indirectly, the Colonial budget receipts.

MEDICAL.

The health returns, both for Europeans and natives, are satisfactory, and sanitation has been generally improved. A special report will be called for on the subject of sleeping sickness in Coomassie; but, with reference to paragraph 6, the presence of tsetse flies cannot properly be described as a "discovery," since specimens of such flies were shown to me at Coomassie in 1905.

TRANSPORT.

The forwarding of stores through Ashanti to the Northern Territories has not been altogether satisfactory, and there was

special trouble at the time of the military manœuvres; but this is a matter which rather concerns the Transport Department than the Ashanti Administration.

POLICE.

The organisation of the police has been much improved, and the present force may be considered very fairly efficient.

PRISONS.

The present gaol at Coomassie consists of substantial buildings, surrounded by walls, and the labour of prisoners has been effectively organized. Only convicts whose sentences exceed three years are now transferred to Colonial gaols.

CRIME.

The comparative absence of serious crime speaks well for the native inhabitants of Ashanti.

PREVENTIVE SERVICE.

The smuggling of dutiable goods from Togoland has been diminished, but not yet entirely suppressed.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

This service has been greatly improved; and, by the completion of the telegraph line from N'Koranza to Sunyani during the current year, every district will shortly be in telegraphic communication with headquarters.

TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Coomassie is rapidly becoming an important trade centre for the hinterland, not merely of the Gold Coast, but also of adjoining territories.

The extension of cocoa plantations and the planting of rubber are very encouraging; and, although the prices of both cocoa and rubber were low last year, the chiefs are evidently paying more attention to agriculture and to the collection of their forest products. The newly-established Agricultural Station at Coomassie and the appointment of a native travelling instructor have tended to stimulate a more intelligent interest in agricultural development, both among the chiefs and their people.

RAILWAY.

The traffic between Ashanti and the coast, by railway, is still capable of considerable further development.

MINES.

The output of gold from mines in Ashanti shows an increase of nearly 2,000 oz., as compared with that for the previous year; but, with the exception of the Goldfields Corporation, relatively better results were obtained by the dredging than by the mining companies.

EDUCATION.

Provision for establishing a Government school at Coomassie will be entered in the 1909 Estimates; and, in the meanwhile, arrangements are being made for training a few boys from Ashanti and the Northern Territories in the Government school at Cape Coast.

RELIGION.

In paragraphs 1-4 Captain Armitage describes concisely, and, in my opinion, accurately, the "Fetishism" of West Africa.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The development of road communications, especially the construction of the trunk road from Coomassie to Tamale, the headquarters of the Northern Territories, is the most urgent need of Ashanti; and the votes provided for this purpose during the current year should be annually increased, for several years to come, if funds are available in the Colonial budget.

COOMASSIE.

The general improvement of this township, in sanitation, roads, buildings, &c., reflects much credit on all concerned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Ashanti exhibits at the Sekondi Agricultural Show were greatly admired and gained many prizes; and the next annual agricultural show will be held at Coomassie in December of the current year.

3. In conclusion, I think that the successful efforts of Mr. Fuller and his assistants to develop the resources of Ashanti and to promote the welfare of its inhabitants are deserving of high commendation.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RODGER,

Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe,
&c., &c., &c.

ASHANTI ANNUAL REPORT, 1907.

I.—ADMINISTRATION.

1. The Order of His Majesty the King in Council, dated the 22nd October, 1906, further defining the boundaries of Ashanti and annexing certain territories previously included in the Northern Territories, came into force on the 1st January, 1907, as did an Order by the Governor dividing Ashanti into new Districts, whereby the following changes were effected:—

The North Eastern District and the newly acquired territory became the Northern District of Ashanti.

The style of the North Western District was changed to that of the Western District of Ashanti.

The Central and Southern Districts remained unchanged.

2. The style of "District" was by the Ashanti Administration (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907 (No. 3 of 1907), dated the 25th October, 1907, changed to that of "Province."

3. On the 1st January the administrative staff of Ashanti was increased by four District Commissioners—later raised to five.

The appointment of District, or, as they were at first styled, Assistant District, Commissioners, have been attended with the most beneficial results, enabling, as it does, one or other of the two officers stationed in each Province to travel through the country, and thus become acquainted with, and looked up to by, the natives, for whom, in many instances, a personal knowledge of their administrators had not previously existed.

4. An Ordinance to make better provision with reference to Commissioners in Ashanti, dated the 25th October, 1907, gave increased civil and criminal jurisdiction to Provincial Commissioners of Ashanti and defined the jurisdiction of the District Commissioners.

5. The Chief Commissioner proceeded on leave of absence on the 14th of December, from which date Captain Armitage, D.S.O., assumed the administration of Ashanti.

CENTRAL PROVINCE.

6. This Province includes Coomassie, Atchima, Juabin, Mampon, Kumawu, Insuta, Aguna, Ejisu, Ofinsu, Bompata (including Agogo), and Obogu. The Chief Commissioner made three tours to the north, east, and west of the Province in January, May, and September respectively, and the District Commissioner paid numerous visits to the outlying districts.

7. Captain E. H. Hobart acted as District Commissioner of the Central Province until May, when he was relieved by Captain H. A. Kortright. The Cantonment Magistrate exercised jurisdiction over Coomassie territory, that is, over lands owned by the Coomassie Chiefs, who, prior to the deportation of King Prempeh, formed the King of Ashanti's Council and ruled the tribes which, under the King, formed the Ashanti confederation. The District Commissioner exercised jurisdiction over the outlying tribes of the Central Province.

NORTHERN PROVINCE.

8. The Northern Province includes Banda, Mo, Kintampo, Nkoranza, Abease, Atebubu, Wiase, and Kratchi, and headquarters have been established at Kintampo, in territory acquired under His Majesty's Order in Council already referred to. For administrative purposes the Province is divided into three principal Districts, viz.:—N'Koranza, Atebubu, and Banda. The Mo people, formerly under N'Koranza, are practically independent, and all Government orders are transmitted to the Head Chief through the Hausa Chief of Kintampo.

9. Captain F. E. Bishop, D.S.O., acted as Commissioner until relieved by Major C. E. D. O. Rew at the end of March. Captain Hobart acted as District Commissioner from the end of May.

WESTERN PROVINCE.

10. The Western Province, which consists of British Gaman, Wanki, Tekiman, Berekum (including Bechim Ahafo and Borumfu), Wam and Asunafo Ahafo, was in charge of Captain H. de C. Denny from the 1st January to 1st March, and from the 7th November until the end of the year, the administration between these periods being undertaken by Mr. T. E. Fell, Provincial Commissioner. Mr. G. Risely Griffith acted as District Commissioner of the Province from May till October.

SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

11. This Province includes Bekwai (with its sub-Districts of Esumeja and Abodom), Kokofu, Adansi, Dengiassi, and Mansu N'Kwanta. Its administration was in the hands of Captain G. W. C. Soden, who proceeded on leave at the end of April, when Captain Kortright took charge until the arrival of Captain Armitage, who, on proceeding to Coomassie to take over from the Chief Commissioner, was relieved by Captain Soden. Mr. P. A. H. Pott was District Commissioner from May until the end of the year.

12. Matters affecting these four Provinces will be found classified under their respective headings.

II.—POLITICAL.

1. The Head Chiefs of Coomassie are at last beginning to realize that their rule, so far as the outlying tribes of Ashanti are concerned, is at an end, and have turned their attention to the consolidation of their subjects. Numerous disputes arising therefrom were adjusted during the year, as were the equally numerous rival claims of the chiefs to small areas of land in the vicinity of Coomassie.

2. On the succession to the Stool of Juabin of the brother of the late Omanhin Yow Spong, who died in November, 1906, a party, headed by his sister, Amba Sewah, "Queen Mother" of Juabin, and his younger brother Siribu, actively opposed him. The Omanhin made no attempt to conciliate his relatives and their supporters, who daily gained in numbers, and the case was finally settled by the Chief Commissioner, who deposed and detained Amba Sewah in Coomassie and punished several of the opposition ringleaders.

3. There was no recrudescence of the revolt against the Omanhin of Aguna, mentioned in last year's Report, and the detachment of the Gold Coast Regiment stationed as a precautionary measure at Aguna was withdrawn.

4. The conduct of the chiefs and people of the newly formed Northern Province was exemplary throughout the year.

5. The Acting Commissioner of the Western Province reports an equally satisfactory state of affairs, and only one incident endangering the peace occurred.

During the year a deputation from Mankessim, a district situated in the Central Province of the Gold Coast, arrived at Odumase to procure the return of the descendants of a Mankessim woman who had been captured by the Ashantis over one hundred years before. These descendants were, to all intents and purposes, pure-bred Ashantis, but, on being given their choice as to whether they would remain in the country or go to Mankessim, a certain number of them decided to adopt the latter alternative. The incident was provocative of considerable friction and intense irritation on the part of the local chiefs.

6. The chief event of political importance affecting the Southern Province was the return of Chief Kudjoe Num, of Dengiassi, and his subjects from the Colony to Ashanti. The Dengiassi lands are situated to the west of the Bekwai District, and the chief and his people were driven from them in 1887 and sought refuge in the Protectorate. The Government made arrangements for them to reside in the division of Tufel (Twiforo), where the Dengiassis built villages not far from Imbraim, by which the Government railway now passes. Here they remained until July, when the chief and the greater

portion of his people reported themselves at Obuassi and proceeded to Dengiassi to rebuild on the sites of their old villages.

7. A plot to distool the Omanhin of Bekwai, whose loyalty to the Government during the rising of 1900 will be remembered, was discovered in June. The ringleader was a dissatisfied war captain, who was arrested, with the principal malcontents. It is satisfactory to note that none of the Bekwai Chiefs were involved in this attempt, which, from the first, was doomed to failure.

8. Early in the year a new cult, now known as the "Abirewa (Old Woman) Fetish," and having its origin in the Northern Territories, made its appearance in Ashanti, and spread with astonishing rapidity. It is worthy of description, as at one time it threatened to assume a position of great importance from a political point of view. The "Abirewa" was supposed to be accompanied by a male companion called Mangguro, who acted as her "executioner." Those who drank "Abirewa" believed themselves to be protected against evil influences: that it brought good health and prosperity so long as its rules were not transgressed, and that it killed witches and persons who dealt in black magic. Weekly dances took place at all villages which had accepted "Abirewa," and its devotees were distinguished by an oblong in white clay painted on the forehead and on either temple. So far it appeared to be harmless, but it was reported that the corpses of those who were said to have been killed by "Abirewa" were mutilated and otherwise maltreated and buried in shallow graves strewn with broken bottles, with most degrading formalities. These allegations were never fully proved, although several "Abirewa" priests were fined for "carrying" hair and parings of nails from the bodies of deceased persons to find out if "Abirewa" had killed them. The Chief Commissioner held a meeting of the chiefs to consider the expediency of allowing the fetish to be introduced into the Central Province, and as a diversity of opinion was shown, it was decided to leave the question to the decision of each Head Chief. The same course was adopted in the Provinces, and "Abirewa," in its most harmless form, is now practised throughout Ashanti.

9. Now that the Commissioners of Provinces have greater opportunities to travel, a large number of land disputes between chiefs of sub-districts were adjusted. In the Central Province the Chief Commissioner dealt with a land dispute between the Omanhins of Kumawu and Mampong, and gave a decision in favour of the former. Another important land case involving the rights of ownership of tribute from the Dema Lands formed the subject of dispute between the Omanhins of Bechim (Western Province), and Ofinsu (Central Province), and was decided by the Chief Commissioner in favour of the former. As, however, the Omanhin of Ofinsu refused to accept the compensation to be awarded to him should he relinquish

all claim to the land, and as the boundary between the Central and Western Provinces is affected by the decision, the disputants agreed to let matters stand over until the Chief Commissioner's return.

10. In the Southern Province the Chief Commissioner gave a final decision with regard to the long-standing boundary dispute between Bekwai and Adansi, which had been the cause of constant friction between these tribes, and of anxiety to the Administration. An accurate survey of the land having been made by the Gold Coast Survey, a boundary line, extending from the north-east to the south-west of the Province, and consisting wherever possible of natural features, was decided upon and accepted by the rival Omanhins, whose main object had been to secure to their tribe an area of land on which several concessions had been taken up. Evidence proved this to belong to the Omanhin of Adansi, and rumours were rife that the Bekwais intended to have recourse to arms, but, while some foundation for these undoubtedly existed, they were happily not realized. The boundaries between the lands of the chiefs of Banka and Borjisango were definitely laid down.

11. Fixed scales of fees to be charged in the Native Courts held in each of the four Provinces were drawn up and agreed to by the Head Chiefs throughout Ashanti, and have given rise to general satisfaction among the natives.

12. It will be gathered from the above that the year has been one of general progress and improvement and that the appointment of District Commissioners in Ashanti has been amply justified. The following may be cited as an instance of the increasing respect for the Administration exhibited by the Ashantis. A dispute between two chiefs in Fomena, the Omanhin of Adansi's town, brought about a fight between their followers, during which one man was killed and many wounded. On receipt of the news a sergeant and two police constables were despatched from Obuassi. These, with the help of the Omanhin, arrested the chiefs who had caused the outbreak, and no less than eighty-one of their followers, who, on the arrival of the Commissioner, were dealt with on the spot.

III.—JUDICIAL.

CRIMINAL CASES.

The following table shows the number of criminal cases heard in the courts of Ashanti and the manner in which they were dealt with:—

Courts.	Cases heard.	Discharged.	Convicted.	Not proceeded with.	Committed for trial.
Chief Commissioner ...	51	10	41	—	—
Cantonment Magistrate ...	864	88	715	32	29
District Commissioner, Central Province.	25	5	13	—	7
Commissioner, Northern Province.	187	24	163	—	—
Commissioner, Western Province.	62	21	37	—	4
Commissioner, Southern Province.	909	65	802	40	2
British Kratchi ...	38	—	38	—	—
Total ...	2,136	213	1,809	72	42

CIVIL CASES.

2. The following civil cases were heard:—

Chief Commissioner's Court ...	45
Cantonment Magistrate's Court ...	560
District Commissioner, Central Province ...	106
Commissioner, Northern Province ...	162
Commissioner, Western Province ...	138
Commissioner, Southern Province ...	356
	<u>1,367</u>

3. These figures compared with those of the previous year show a decrease of 147 in criminal, and an increase of 384 in civil cases.

4. It will be noticed that the Commissioner's Court of the Southern Province heads the list of criminal cases heard in the courts of Ashanti during the year. This is due to the fact that headquarters are situated at Obuassi on the property of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, and that, among a mixed and cosmopolitan mining population, much criminality in its less serious forms is bound to exist.

5. The Concession Division of the Chief Commissioner's Court sat on four occasions during the year. No certificate of validity was granted.

IV.—LEGISLATION.

The following Ordinances were enacted expressly for Ashanti during 1907:—

No. 1.—The Ashanti Concessions (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907.

No. 2.—The Ashanti Railway Assimilation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907.

No. 3.—The Ashanti Administration (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907.

No. 4.—The Ashanti Commissioners Ordinance, 1907.

No. 5.—The Ashanti Firearms Ordinance, 1907.

2. No. 1 deals with the payment of Income Tax on their profits by concession holders in Ashanti.

No. 2 makes all Ordinances, regulations, and by-laws made with respect to railways applicable to any railway which is wholly or partially situated in Ashanti.

No. 3 amends the Ashanti Administration Ordinance, 1902, and defines the Provinces into which Ashanti is divided.

No. 4 makes better provision with reference to Commissioners in Ashanti, and has been already referred to under the heading of Administration.

No. 5 regulates the importation, introduction, storage, and disposal of firearms, ammunition, gunpowder and lead in Ashanti, and makes the conversion of flint-locks into cap guns illegal.

V.—MILITARY.

1. The strength of the West African Frontier Force in Ashanti on the 31st December, 1907, was: on active list (rank and file and gun carriers) 1,219 and reservists 134.

These figures include European officers and non-commissioned officers not on leave of absence.

2. N'koranza was done away with as an out-station at the close of the year 1906, and the company formerly quartered there was sent to Kintampo.

3. A total of six companies was stationed in Ashanti: four in Coomassie, and one at Sunyani and Kintampo respectively.

4. Colonel Carter, C.M.G., commanding the Gold Coast Regiment, proceeded on leave in May, 1907, and returned to Coomassie in October, when he reassumed command of the regiment from Major H. C. Stanley Clarke, R.A.

VOLUNTEERS.

1. The Ashanti Mines Volunteers numbered on the 31st December, 1907, 6 officers and 73 non-commissioned officers and men, all European employes of the mines. The Bibiani Company was placed under the Officer Commanding, Ashanti Mines Volunteers, during the year.

2. The Obuassi Company has, as part of its equipment, a 7 pr. M.L. gun and a Maxim gun.

3. Class-firing was carried out by the companies throughout the year. A challenge shield for competition among the Mines and Railway Volunteers of the Western Province of the Gold Coast and Ashanti was won for the second time by the Obuassi team.

4. A company of Railway Volunteers with headquarters at Obuassi was established during the year, and numbered 41 non-commissioned officers and men.

VI.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

REVENUE.

1. The total revenue collected in Ashanti during 1907 amounted to £36,794 6s. 11d., as against £32,328 17s. 10d. in 1906.

2. Normal increases are shown under Court fines, market and slaughter-house fees, sale of stamps, liquor licences, and rent from Government land, while an increase of £11,172 is due to the payment during the year of deferred royalties by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Limited.

3. A large decrease under caravan taxes is due to the abolition in November, 1906, of the caravan toll system introduced into Ashanti the previous March.

The necessity for the storage of large quantities of native rations in Coomassie no longer exists, and, owing to the reduction of expenditure under the head of reserve rations and to the large sales of old stores during the previous year, a considerable decrease is shown under sale of reserve rations.

EXPENDITURE.

The expenditure during 1907 amounted to £82,302 13s. 1d., as against £85,125 6s. 4d. in 1906; a decrease of £2,822 13s. 3d., principally due to the fact that during the year 1906 a large expenditure was incurred under Public Works Extraordinary in building and by the purchase of medical quarters from the Basel Mission. Expenditure under

this item returned during the year under review to what may be termed a normal standard.

2. Apart from the decrease shown under Public Works Extraordinary, an increase of only £715 8s. 1*d.* was incurred, and of this sum the expenditure of £203 7s. 11*d.* is due to the establishment during the year of Railway Volunteers in Ashanti.

3. Taking into consideration the small increase in expenditure mentioned in paragraph 2 above, and the increase of revenue by £4,465 1s. 9*d.*, as compared with the figures for the previous year, the position of Ashanti during 1907 must be regarded as satisfactory from a financial point of view.

4. During the year the Treasury Department was consecutively in the charge of Messrs. L. H. Wheatley and Alfred Mensah.

VII.—MEDICAL.

1. During 1907 the medical staff of Ashanti consisted of a Senior Medical Officer, four Medical Officers, and a Nursing Sister, who arrived in Coomassie in December to take charge of the European hospital.

2. The average number of Europeans resident in Ashanti during 1907 was 380, and, as far as can be ascertained, only five deaths occurred among non-officials, and none among officials. This represents a death-rate of 13·158 per 1,000 among Europeans, as compared with 15 per 1,000 in 1906. Three officials and seven non-officials were invalided.

3. The health of Europeans and natives was good. The European hospital was opened on the 26th May, and, from that period to the end of the year, 31 cases were admitted, with an average detention of 6 days. At the native hospital at Coomassie 640 patients were admitted and 7,094 out-patients treated. At Obuassi 26 patients were admitted, while at the dispensary 1,632 old and 716 new cases were treated. One hundred and ninety-five vaccinations were performed at Coomassie, of which 125 were successful.

4. Twenty-five permanent latrines for natives have now been erected in Coomassie, and have proved to be a great improvement on the old system.

5. The water supply was good and plentiful, and the construction of a number of wells—in some cases fitted with pumps—has been of the greatest benefit to the native community.

6. Dr. Rice reports as follows:—"In view of the presence of sleeping sickness in Coomassie the most important event of the year has been the discovery of tsetse flies in Coomassie." The

first specimen, identified as *Glossina palpalis*, was caught in the native hospital; the second (*Glossina gallicara*), on the polo ground. Subsequent investigation proved that tsetse was to be found on all the roads leading out of Coomassie, and elsewhere.

4. The department was successively in charge of Doctors Montgomery and Rice.

VIII.—TRANSPORT.

1. The Transport Department in Ashanti during 1907 consisted of one assistant transport officer, one third grade clerk, one fourth grade clerk, one overseer, 14 headmen, and 336 carriers.

2. Of the above 14 gangs (1 headman and 24 carriers to a gang), 7 were assigned to the Northern Territories and 7 to Ashanti. The latter were all kept in Coomassie, as two special gangs were enlisted for the out-stations. A third special gang for the Southern Province was enlisted towards the end of the year.

3. During the year 1,979 loads were despatched to the Northern Territories: 951 to the out-stations in Ashanti, and 4,286 distributed in Coomassie, or a total of 7,216 loads, against 8,672 in 1906—a decrease of 1,456. This is accounted for by the fact that fewer loads were received for transmission to the Northern Territories than in former years.

4. During the year the officers controlling were successively Mr. Main, Mr. Lewis, and Lieutenant Tinling.

IX.—POLICE.

1. During the year the police were stationed at Coomassie in the Central, and Obuassi in the Southern, Province.

The force numbered on the 31st December, at Coomassie, 1 superintendent, 5 non-commissioned officers, 19 constables, and 3 escort police; and at Obuassi, 1 superintendent, 3 non-commissioned officers, 13 constables, and 4 escort police.

2. An Assistant Commissioner of Police was not available, but periodical inspections were made by officers from the Coast.

3. The Coomassie police effected 864 arrests, as against 1,280 in 1906—a decrease of 316.

4. The old police barracks at Coomassie was removed to make way for a new one, and, pending its erection, a building was leased in the town.

5. At Obuassi 909 arrests were effected, as against 758 in 1906—an increase of 151.

6. The efficiency and general conduct of the police, both at Coomassie and Obuassi, was good.

7. One sergeant, 4 corporals, and 5 constables were employed as mines police at Obuassi and Akrokerri during the year.

They were paid for by the mining companies and were directly under the mines' managers, except with regard to their pay, discipline, and interior economy.

8. The strength of the railway police employed in Ashanti was 2 sergeants and 6 constables.

They were under the control of the railway authorities, and their duties were exclusively confined to the railway.

X.—PRISONS.

COOMASSIE GAOL.

1. Coomassie Gaol was under the direct control of the Cantonment Magistrate during the year. The staff consists of 1 chief warder, 3 permanent, and 6 temporary, warders.

2. Escort work without the precincts of the prison was carried out by military escorts in conjunction with the warders.

3. With the opening of an infirmary and dispensary the male prison may be described as complete in every particular. A female prison was completed and consists of two wards for prisoners, quarters for the matron, and the usual accommodation for cooking.

4. The total number of prisoners was 691, against 620 in 1906, with a daily average of 62, made up as follows:—

Convicted	...	...	...	...	302
Debtors	...	...	...	...	67
Remanded, political prisoners awaiting trial or detained, want of security, &c.	...	...	...	...	322
					691

Of the above, 32 were female prisoners, of whom 8 were convicts, 11 debtors, and 13 were detained for safe custody.

5. The health of the prisoners was described by the Senior Medical Officer as being exceptionally good. No deaths occurred, and only 311 reported sick, as compared with 643 in 1906, showing a remarkable decrease of 332. The space allotted to each prisoner is 432 cubic feet.

6. Offences against prison discipline number 158, as against 52 for the previous year; an increase of 106, stated by the Cantonment Magistrate to be due to the slackness shown by a chief warder, who has now been removed.

No offences against discipline occurred in the female prison.

7. Three executions were carried out during the year, and there were 8 escapes and 4 recaptures.

8. The prisoners were mainly engaged in sanitary work, road making, water carrying, and general clearing.

9. The food supplied to the prisoners was good and sufficient. It was all cooked in the gaol, and was catered for at 3*d.* per diem per prisoner.

10. There are no prisons at Kintampo and Sunyani. Prisoners are confined in the guard-room of the company of the Gold Coast Regiment stationed at headquarters. They are engaged in sanitary work, water carrying, and in general clearing.

OBUASSI GAOL.

11. This gaol is still a temporary structure of corrugated iron in which prisoners undergoing sentences of six months and under are confined. There is no accommodation for female prisoners, who are sent to Coomassie.

The staff consists of:—1 first-class warder, 2 second-class warders, and from 3 to 5 temporary warders, according to the number of prisoners.

12. The total number of prisoners for the year was 551, with a daily average of 31·117, made up as follows:—

Convicted	...	...	...	...	106
Debtors	...	...	...	...	44
For safe custody till trial, or for want of security	...	...	...	...	401
					551

13. The health of the prisoners was very good. There were no deaths, and only three admissions to hospital.

14. The prisoners were engaged in sanitary work, water carrying, road cleaning, and general clearing. The prisoners' rations were supplied by contract at the rate of 3*d.* per diem per prisoner.

XI.—CRIME.

1. 2,136 criminal cases were heard in the courts of Ashanti during 1907, as compared with 2,283 in 1906. There were 1,809 convictions recorded, against 1,443 in the previous year.

2. These were mainly accounted for under the following heads:—Public nuisance, breach of the peace, assault, drunkenness, larceny (Section 99), assault on police, selling spirits without a licence, drumming without permit, causing harm, and miscellaneous offences. Three cases of murder were heard, and in each instance the accused suffered the extreme penalty of the law.

3. The absence of serious crime in Ashanti during the year under review was most gratifying, and would indicate that the Ashanti has the makings of a law-abiding citizen and is yearly becoming more amenable to the British law administered in Ashanti.

XII.—PREVENTIVE SERVICE.

1. A European Inspector from the Customs Department, with powers to act as a District Commissioner of Ashanti within a distance of ten miles from the right bank of the Volta River between the Obosom and the Pru Rivers, is in charge of the Preventive Stations in Ashanti, which are situated on that portion of the Volta River which forms the boundary between Ashanti and German Togoland.

2. The sum of £585 10s. 11*d.* in ferry dues was collected at Kratchi during the year, against £789 19s. 10*d.* in 1906. £330 12s. 7*d.* was collected as customs dues. Smuggled goods were seized to the value of £246 16s. 6*d.*, and part of them, to the value of £95 14s., were sold. The sum of £51 16s. was realized by canoe licences.

3. Messrs. Legge and Pett were successively in charge of the Preventive Stations during the year.

XIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

1. There are Post Offices at Coomassie, Obuassi, Akrokerri, Moini Hill, Kintampo, N'Koranza, and Atebubu: at the four

last mentioned offices stamps and postal orders can be purchased, but the latter cannot be cashed there.

2. A tri-weekly mail service is established to and from Coomassie and the coast, and mails are despatched to and from the Northern Territories, Kintampo, and Sunyani once a week.

3. The Post Office at Coomassie was removed in October from the offices hitherto occupied in the Fort to a new and more commodious building erected on the site of the old market place.

4. The following tables show the work done by the three principal Post Offices in Ashanti during 1907:—

COOMASSIE.

—	Forwarded.	Received.	Totals.
Letters and post cards	98,254	144,288	242,542
Book packets, &c.	29,330	22,324	51,654
Registered articles	20,232	6,926	27,158
Parcels	1,200	4,480	5,680
Totals	149,016	178,018	327,034

OBUASSI.

—	Forwarded.	Received.	Totals.
Letters and post cards	26,520	27,900	54,420
Book packets, &c.... ..	576	14,640	15,216
Registered articles	3,433	1,874	5,307
Parcels	267	2,085	2,352
Totals	30,796	46,499	77,295

AKROKERRI.

—	Forwarded.	Received.	Totals.
Letters and post cards	2,183	3,991	6,174
Book packets, &c.... ..	109	200	309
Registered articles	258	900	1,158
Parcels	99	606	705
Totals	2,649	5,697	8,346

The following table shows the Post Office Receipts for 1907, compared with those for 1906:—

Office.				Receipts, 1906.	Receipts, 1907.	Increase, 1907.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Coomassie ...	...	...	...	13,469 12 2	15,917 19 6	2,448 7 4
Obuassi ...	...	...	...	12,199 10 5	13,873 9 10	1,673 19 5
Total ...	...	...	...	25,669 2 7	29,791 9 4	4,122 6 9

The Obuassi receipts include those of Akrokerri and Moinsi Hill.

5. The Post Office Savings Banks established at Coomassie and Obuassi had a total number of 139 depositors, with deposits to the value of £841 16s. 1d.—an increase of 65 depositors and £150 12s. 7d. deposits on the previous year.

6. There are telegraph stations at Obuassi, Moinsi Hill (Kwissa), Akrokerri, Coomassie, Kintampo, N'Koranza, and Atebubu, and a telegraph line from N'Koranza to Sunyani has been surveyed.

7. The following number of messages were received and forwarded:—

Office.					Received.	Forwarded.	Total.
Coomassie ...	...	...	...	...	15,879	17,187	33,066
Obuassi ...	...	...	...	...	6,339	13,750	20,089
Akrokerri ...	...	...	...	...	3,010	2,885	5,895
Totals ...	...	...	...	...	25,228	33,822	59,050

8. Mr. Bannerman took over the Coomassie Post Office from Mr. Jackson in February, and except from August to November, when his place was taken by Mr. Robinson, remained in charge during the year. Mr. Quartey was in charge of the Obuassi Post Office.

XIV.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

1. It is generally agreed that but for the depressed state of the home markets towards the end of the year, the trade returns for 1907 would have shown a very large general increase over 1906.

2. Coomassie is the chief trading centre of Ashanti, and eleven European firms are now established in the town, in addition to many native traders in produce.

3. The rubber season opened well, and, up to the end of September, prices at Coomassie ranged up to 1s. 10d. per pound. In October these fell to 1s. 6d.; in November to 1s. At the end of December there was a slight recovery, and up to 1s. 1½d. per lb. was obtainable. The new year, however, saw a relapse. The prices of cocoa and gum copal were also adversely affected.

4. In spite of these depressing conditions the amount of rubber shipped by rail from Ashanti showed only a slight decrease on that of the previous year—1,315 tons as compared with 1,354 tons—while 557 tons of cocoa were despatched, as against 148 tons in 1906. So far as can be ascertained 124½ tons of gum copal were despatched from Ashanti, the greater portion coming from the Southern Province.

5. Local trade increased about 50 per cent. as compared with that of 1906, and this accounts for the increased goods traffic on the Ashanti section of the railway of 4,494 tons.

6. The Commissioner of the Northern Province states that during the year the principal trading commodities taken north were salt, cloth, kerosine, matches, and enamelled basins, and, during the dry season, kola; while southwards the trade consisted of cattle, sheep, shea-butter, cowhides, Moshi cloths, and a little ivory and rubber. The Basel Mission Factory opened a small store at Kintampo during the year, and there appears to be no reason why other firms should not shortly follow its example, and for the town to become a flourishing trading centre.

7. The Acting Commissioner of the Western Province reports that an average quantity of rubber was tapped during the year, but that this product is undoubtedly becoming scarcer. He notes with satisfaction that two chiefs asked permission to stop all tapping of rubber trees on their lands for one year.

8. At the moment when the depressed state of the home markets began to make itself felt in Ashanti, a fetish priest at Tekiman announced the speedy advent of a new "god," who was to bring riches to the poor, and reduce the rich to abject poverty. At his coming the black man was to become white and the white man black. He also let it be known that any man found tapping rubber, farming, or hunting in the forest would, on the "god's" arrival, be turned into an antelope. Incredible as it may appear, this impostor succeeded in paralysing the local rubber trade. He was eventually arrested, and is at present detained in Coomassie. His "fetish" has fallen into disrepute, and is not now heard of.

9. During the year a large quantity of cocoa seed was introduced into the province, and nearly every village possesses its cocoa nursery.

10. The Acting Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows:—

“The trade of the Southern Province is carried on by itinerant traders, from whom it is impossible to get records, and by one European firm, namely, the Ashanti-Obuassi Trading Company, Limited, who have trading stores established at Obuassi, Sansu, and Akrokerri. I have, therefore, taken their returns for 1907 as a standard to go by, and I am indebted to the courtesy of the manager of the Ashanti-Obuassi Trading Company for the following information:—

“The volume of trade during 1907 compares very favourably with that of 1906, and a general improvement in every branch of the business has to be recorded for the year under review. Staple lines, such as salt, kerosine, soap, flour, &c., all show an improved sale, and this is also noticeable in the sales of cotton cloths, and handkerchiefs, as well as in other clothing. These facts show that people who formerly went to the coast towns for their supplies, are now finding that their wants can be supplied nearer home, and Obuassi is becoming more and more a trade centre for the province. In this respect the gum copal industry is probably an important factor, for the money paid out to the sellers of this produce during the year amounted to a large sum and no doubt benefited the trade generally.

“Turning to the purchase side of the business, an all-round improvement has not been maintained.

“*Rubber.*—A very considerable falling off is to be observed in the amount of rubber brought in for sale during 1907; the quantity in 1906 being upwards of 1,800 lbs. in excess of that purchased in 1907 (38,084 lbs.). This is in a great measure due to the dull and unsettled condition of the home markets, which consequently only admits of poor prices being offered to the producers, which are hardly sufficient to induce them to sell at present.

“*Cocoa.*—The 1906 cocoa year was practically nil, and it is gratifying to see that there were indications, during 1907, of Obuassi becoming more or less a centre of this industry as time goes on. The quantity of cocoa purchased during the year only amounted to 6,500 lbs., but it was nearly all offered for sale towards the end of the year, from which it may reasonably be assumed that the majority of the cocoa plantations in the province are only now beginning to bear fruit.

“*Gum Copal.*—This industry has maintained a steady improvement and large quantities have been brought during the year. The gum copal purchased at Obuassi in 1907 amounted to 3 cwts. short of 100 tons, as compared with 44 tons during 1906, but the increase was only to be expected as the industry was re-started in 1906 and naturally took some time to develop.”

AGRICULTURE.

1. It is now beyond doubt that the Ashantis are seriously turning their attention to agriculture as a remunerative pursuit, and it is disappointing to record that the recent fall in the prices paid for cocoa and rubber has somewhat shaken their confidence. A native overseer, lent by the Agricultural Department, travelled through the provinces and lectured on the cultivation and preparation of cocoa and rubber at many of the principal villages. He was everywhere well received, and his lectures were listened to with the greatest interest.

2. The Acting Commissioner of the Southern Province reports as follows:—

“The keen desire shown by the natives of the Southern Province during 1907 to go in for agriculture is most pleasing to record. They have marked the year by the zeal they displayed to learn all they could about the cultivation of cocoa and rubber, and they were greatly encouraged by a series of lectures which Overseer Glover of the Agricultural Department delivered in all principal towns of the Southern Province on the growing, planting, and preparation of cocoa and rubber. These lectures were supplemented by practical instruction on their own farms by Mr. Glover, and the natives present were then not only taught how to tap rubber trees, but also how to ferment cocoa beans, and were shown the most effective means of exterminating the insects and parasites which attack their cocoa plantations and blight the young trees.

“Seven thousand and eighty-two rubber plants (*Funtumia elastica*) and one thousand cocoa plants were distributed amongst the chiefs of the Southern Province during 1907, most of which, I am informed, are doing very well. The number of plants distributed last year was somewhat restricted, owing to the unsettled condition of the Bekwai and Adansi Districts during the months preceding the Bekwai and Adansi boundary delimitation.”

3. Great progress has been made at the Coomassie Agricultural Station, started in March, 1906. Twenty-three acres of Para (*Hevea brasiliensis*), and four and a half acres of Funtum rubber (*Funtumia elastica*), were planted out at distances of 15 feet by 15 feet, and 10 feet by 10 feet, respectively, and are doing well.

4. The seeds of two varieties of cocoa and eight varieties of cotton were sown during the months of July, August, and September, as were shrubs and fibres of economic value. The nursery of $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres is well stocked, and includes 20,000 Funtumia, 4,000 Para, and 6,000 cocoa, in addition to many fruit tree seedlings.

5. Forty acres of land were cleared, and fifty planted.

6. During the year the station was successively in charge of Mr. Anderson and Mr. Gear.

XV.—RAILWAY.

1. The following statements show the goods and passenger traffic dealt with on the Ashanti section of the Government Railway during the year 1907, as compared with 1906:—

GOODS TRAFFIC.

Station.	1906.		1907.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
		£		£		£		£
Obuassi ...	2,477	16,528	3,495	16,182	1,018	—	—	346
Akrokerri ...	5,043	7,499	5,454	7,056	411	—	—	443
Bekwai ...	51	117	74	279	23	162	—	—
Eduadin ...	75	26	151	52	76	26	—	—
Coomassie ...	5,183	42,115	8,149	47,966	2,966	5,851	—	—
Total ...	12,829	66,285	17,323	71,535	4,494	6,039	—	789

All stations showed a greater tonnage handled than in 1906:—

Station.	1906.		1907.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Passengers.	Amount.	Passengers.	Amount.	Passengers.	Amount.	Passengers.	Amount.
		£		£		£		£
Obuassi ...	10,804	4,084	10,116	3,670	—	—	688	414
Akrokerri ...	3,697	820	3,526	839	—	19	171	—
Bekwai ...	925	204	1,230	296	305	92	—	—
Eduadin ...	384	69	484	85	100	16	—	—
Coomassie ...	5,202	3,981	6,462	4,249	1,260	268	—	—
Total ...	21,012	9,158	21,818	9,139	1,665	395	859	414

2. Free tickets by rail were issued from Coomassie to Obuassi to those consigning wagon loads of sheep and goats or cattle in lots of not less than six, and the same concession was granted at Coomassie to those consigning a ton or more of kola to Sekondi. This arrangement has given much satisfaction.

3. The railway conveyed free all the exhibits sent from Ashanti to the Sekondi Agricultural Show, and, in addition, free conveyance to and from the Show was given to 400 Ashantis, and reduced fares to passengers proceeding to the Show.

4. Although the total receipts from passenger traffic was slightly less than in 1906 (accounted for by the shortage in Obuassi passengers), there was a slight total increase of passengers.

5. About 1,500 trees were felled along the line of rail between Coomassie and Eduadin and about 760 near Obuassi.

XVI.—MINES.

1. During 1907 the amount of fine gold obtained by the mining and dredging companies was 77,658·2 ozs., valued at £329,892, as compared with 75,694·7 bullion ozs., valued at £294,687, obtained in 1906.

Company.	Fine ounces recovered.	Value.
(a) Mining—		£
Akrokerri Ashanti Mines, Ltd.	14,343·7	60,931
Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Ltd.	45,599·2	193,705
Ashanti Quartzite Company, Ltd.... ..	102·1	434
Imbatiem Goldfields, Ltd.	22·6	96
Obenemassi Goldfields, Ltd.	140·7	598
Sansu Mines, Ltd.	7,650·7	32,502
(b) Dredging—		
Ashanti Goldfields Auxiliary	4,326·3	18,376
Ofin River Gold Estates, Ltd.	5,472·8	23,248
Total Ozs.	77,658·1	£ 329,890

2. The amount of labour employed by the mining and dredging companies in Ashanti was as follows:—

—	Surface.	Underground.	Total.
Europeans	108	46	154
Natives	2,056	1,058	3,114
Total labour employed	3,268	—	—

The above figures do not include labour employed by contractors for wood-cutting and other works.

3. With the exception of the annually recurring difficulty to obtain woodcutters during the rainy season, the supply of labour was plentiful throughout the year.

4. Sums amounting to £930 13s. 4d. were paid into the Treasury by holders of concessions in Ashanti, as rents due to native lessors, as compared with £2,122 paid in 1906.

The decrease is accounted for by the fact that in 1906 large sums representing arrears of rents due with respect to several concessions were paid in full.

5. The general health of European and native employés on the mines was good.

XVII.—EDUCATION.

1. As yet no Government School has been established in Ashanti, and education is in the hands of the Basel and Wesleyan Missions. During the year sites for school houses were acquired by the Roman Catholic Mission at Coomassie and Obuassi.

2. At the thirteen schools opened by the Basel Mission, 252 children were in attendance, as against 215 in 1906.

The distribution of these schools and the attendance were as follows:—

	Schools. Attendance.	
Central Province ...	11	214
Western Province ...	1	22
Southern Province ...	1	16

In addition to the above, one school in the Northern, and one in the Southern Province, were closed for want of teachers.

3. The Wesleyan Mission possesses seven schools in Ashanti, with twelve teachers and the following distribution and attendance:—

	Attendance.			Total.	Average Attendance.
	Schools.	Boys.	Girls.		
Central Province ...	1	235	12	247	180
Western Province ...	1	41	15	56	38
Southern Province ...	5	156	17	173	113

—an increase of 58 scholars, as compared with 1906.

4. The instruction given in the Mission Schools is, of necessity, of an elementary character, and, as stated in last year's report, education among the Ashantis will progress but slowly, if at all, until Government undenominational schools have been established. The chiefs regard the Mission Schools as a means to an end, *i.e.*, the proselytism of the children, and fear their consequent repudiation of the chief's authority and their obligations to the tribal stool.

XVIII.—RELIGION.

1. The religious belief of the Ashantis must be termed "Animistic," in that they worship and endeavour to influence and conciliate an indefinite number of powerful, and mainly malignant, spirits who reside wherever the superstitious fears of the native locate them. The forest is full of them: rivers and prominent natural features such as hills, pools, rocks, &c., each has its supernatural occupant. It is, however, more generally known as "Fetichism," a term which, with "Ju-Ju," is now erroneously used to describe the religious belief of the natives of West Africa. The word "Fetish" has been adapted from the original Portuguese "*feitiço*," as applied to charms, amulets, and objects possessing magical potency.

2. I do not consider that idolatry exists in Ashanti. Objects of all description are venerated—not worshipped—as the abode of some powerful spirit who is to be propitiated and pleased by every means possible. An object into which such a spirit has entered becomes useless as soon as the occupant's inability to help the owner, or the greater power exercised over it by some other spirit, has been demonstrated. It is then either sold to Europeans as a "fetish" or thrown away, while its late owner obtains another abode for the new spirit.

3. Any person may possess his own particular spirit or "suman," in addition to his part ownership in that of his tribe or community which is known as "Busum." The possession of a "suman" is, however, attended with some danger, as it may turn and rend the owner, and it is of common occurrence to hear it said of a deceased person that "his suman has eaten him."

4. The veneration of ancestors is universal, and the chiefs and headmen of communities are supposed to consult with the shades of those who once occupied their stools, and to receive from them advice and guidance with regard to the welfare of their tribes or communities.

5. The Basel Mission, which is in charge of the Rev. A. P. Bauer, reports a membership of 372, as against 276 in 1906—

an increase of 96. The staff consists of the Rev. Lipps, one native minister, 14 catechists, and 3 teachers. The veteran missionary, Mr. Ramseyer, who has identified himself with the mission work in Ashanti, and who returned to the mission headquarters at Coomassie as a volunteer towards the end of 1906, continued his mission labours throughout the year.

6. The mission buildings on the newly acquired site at Coomassie were completed, and a large church is in course of construction.

7. The Wesleyan Mission reports a total membership of 443, an increase of 80 on last year's figures. The majority of the members live at Coomassie and Obuassi, and are Fantis or natives of other coast tribes, but there is an increase in the purely Ashanti membership.

8. Mohammedanism is looked down upon by the Ashantis, and I do not know of a single case of proselytism to this religion in the country. This does not, however, prevent the native Mohammedan from doing a flourishing trade in charms of all descriptions—from amulets to native cloths, on which has been inscribed hieroglyphics and texts from the Koran—for the prevention and cure of all evils.

XIX.—PUBLIC WORKS.

1. The following public works were commenced or completed during 1907 at Coomassie:—Post office, female prison, hospital and dispensary, European hospital, laundry in which to wash Europeans' clothes, and several buildings for the Gold Coast Regiment.

2. There was a plentiful supply of labour, but contractors are still somewhat difficult to obtain. Wages vary from 1s. per diem for unskilled to 3s. per diem for skilled labour.

3. The total expenditure under the vote for Public Works Extraordinary was £1,253 15s. 4d.

XX.—COOMASSIE TOWN.

1. The town continues to extend. The old thatch-covered houses are rapidly disappearing, their places being taken by solid "swish" (clay) buildings with iron or shingle roofs. Sixty such were constructed during the year.

2. The town ground rents received by the Government totalled the sum of £1,584 12s. 6d., an increase of £229 19s. 2d. on the previous year. £525 1s. 4d. were received as ground rents from the Zongo (Mohammedan quarter)—an increase of £155 15s. 4d.; and the sum realized in slaughter-house fees amounted to £444 4s. 6d.—an increase of £63 3s. on 1906.

3. The population of Coomassie and the Zongo is 6,642—an increase of 362. Coomassie is, however, surrounded by a large number of small villages to which the Ashantis return in the evening, having disposed of their wares and transacted their business during the day. Thus the town, filled to overflowing in the morning, has, towards evening, a comparatively deserted appearance. The population of the Zongo is difficult to gauge owing to the roving tendencies of those who go to make it up, and who are, for the most part, traders from up country.

4. The market place brought in a revenue of £143 16s., an increase of £10 16s., from the seventy-eight stalls let to petty traders, and local food supplies were plentiful.

5. Road construction was continued during the year, as were the stone and concrete drains commenced in 1906. Much clearing was done and the forest lying to the south of the Fort is fast receding.

6. The stone-floored cattle compound was completed in the Zongo, and stone-floored washing places near the wells were constructed for the natives' use. A European laundry has also been built.

7. Under the superintendence of Dr. Rice, Senior Medical Officer, the swamp surrounding Coomassie has been practically drained, and, on land thus reclaimed, an excellent vegetable garden has been made by the same officer, which yields enough vegetables to supply the officials and European hospital.

8. A 13-hole golf course planted with doub grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), has been completed.

XXI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

1. The Chief Commissioner visited the Northern Province in January, British Kratchi, and the eastern portion of the Central District in May, and the Western Province in September.

2. Major C. E. D. O. Rew was appointed a Provincial Commissioner of Ashanti, and Captains E. H. Hobart, H. A. Kortright, H. de C. Denny, and Messrs. P. A. H. Pott and G. Risely Griffith, District Commissioners.

3. The foundation stone of the three-storied building in course of erection by the Bank of British West Africa was laid by the Chief Commissioner on the 9th November.

4. The Sekondi Agricultural Show, held on the 29th and 30th November, was attended by the Chief Commissioner, who, accompanied by representative Ashanti chiefs and their followers (in all 400), arrived at Sekondi by special train on the eve of the opening of the show. Exhibits from Ashanti secured no less than 73 prizes: 24 firsts, 27 seconds, and 22 thirds, in addition to five of the special prizes offered. The report on the show drawn up by the Commissioner of the Western Province, contains the following:—"Summing up, the special feature of the show was the fine exhibit in all classes made by Ashanti; it appears evident that the chiefs there are more enterprising than those of the Colony."

5. A large four-dial clock subscribed to by his friends has been erected in a small tower over the post office in Coomassie as a memorial to the late Sir Donald Stewart, first Resident and Chief Commissioner of Ashanti, and a marble tablet recording the above will shortly be unveiled.

The following were the meteorological observations for the year:—

				Average Maximum Temperature.	Average Minimum Temperature.	Rainfall.
Coomassie	...	...	...	85·18	70·61	ins. 63·32
Obuassi	...	...	...	87·	67·	75·24

C. H. ARMITAGE,

Acting Chief Commissioner of Ashanti.

Coomassie,
28th March, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
533	Wei-hai-wei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica... ..	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia... ..	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do. do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do.	Do. (1905-6)
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 543.

BAHAMAS.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 496.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1907.

[Cd. 3729-7.] Price 2½d.

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No. 543.

BAHAMAS.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 496.)

THE ACTING-GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Nassau,

23rd August, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship here-
with the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1906-7,
together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

W. HART BENNETT,
Administrator.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The Revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1907, was £79,058, as compared with £77,294 in the previous year, or £5,057 more than the average annual revenue of the preceding five years.

2. The following statement gives details:—

Heads of Revenue.	1905-6.	1906-7.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	64,422	65,987	1,565	—
2. Port Dues, &c.	373	433	60	—
3. Licences and Internal Revenue...	4,466	4,606	140	—
4. Fees and Reimbursements	2,709	2,104	—	605
5. Post and Telegraphs	4,721	4,937	216	—
6. Rents	300	320	20	—
7. Widows and Orphans	114	111	—	3
8. Miscellaneous	11	5	—	6
9. Interest	176	553	377	—
10. Land Sales... ..	2	2	—	—
Totals	77,294	79,058	2,378	614

3. The increase in revenue over last year is accounted for mainly by increased importations of dutiable goods.

4. The expenditure amounted to £71,087, as against £70,256 in 1905-6, or an increase of £831, and was £2,886 less than the average annual expenditure of the preceding five years.

5. The details of the expenditure were as follows:—

Service.	1905-6.	1906-7.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Public Debt Charges	6,622	6,486	—	136
2. Pensions	3,217	3,791	574	—
3. House of Assembly	914	1,157	243	—
4. Legislative Council	70	66	—	4
5. Governor	1,245	1,360	115	—
6. Colonial Secretary	969	924	—	45
Carried forward	13,037	13,784	932	185

Expenditure—cont.

Service.	1905-6.	1906-7.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward...	13,037	13,784	932	185
7. Receiver General ...	3,055	3,057	2	—
8. Judicial ...	6,617	6,347	—	270
9. Registrar ...	544	558	14	—
10. Constabulary and Police...	5,602	5,649	47	—
11. Fire ...	379	587	208	—
12. Surveyor-General...	446	462	16	—
13. Audit ...	379	360	—	19
14. Post Office...	7,531	6,796	—	735
15. Telegraphs and Telephones ...	1,278	1,301	23	—
16. Ecclesiastical ...	230	115	—	115
17. Education ...	5,100	5,107	7	—
18. Public Libraries ...	456	455	—	1
19. Port and Marine ...	1,933	1,767	—	166
20. Medical ...	713	724	11	—
21. Charitable Institutions ...	7,760	7,130	—	630
22. Prisons ...	1,889	1,779	—	110
23. Public Works ...	10,495	11,619	1,124	—
24. Miscellaneous ...	1,862	2,585	723	—
25. Board of Agriculture ...	750	600	—	150
26. Sponge Board ...	200	305	105	—
Totals ...	70,256	71,087	3,212*	2,381

Net increase £831.

The surplus for the year was £7,971, and the total surplus on the 31st March, 1907, amounted to £19,405.

6. The following table gives the total revenue and expenditure for the past five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue (+) or Expenditure (—).
	£	£	£
1902-3 ...	72,442	74,614	— 2,172
1903-4 ...	71,377	74,038	— 2,661
1904-5 ...	71,112	69,825	+ 1,287
1905-6 ...	77,294	70,256	+ 7,038
1906-7 ...	79,058	71,087	+ 7,971

It is satisfactory to note from this table that the balance of revenue over expenditure has increased to a considerable extent.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

7. The assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st March, 1907, are given in the following table:—

Assets.		—		Liabilities.		—	
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Cash in Colonial Chest	...	4,711	10 3	On Current Account—	£	19	11 8
" at Out-Islands and in transit	...	488	7 9	Salaries	...	457	12 1
" in hands of Crown Agents	...	1,956	0 0	Pensions	...	2,009	12 2
" in transit to Crown Agents	...	—	—	Miscellaneous	...	...	...
Surplus Funds invested	...	4,636	7 0			2,486	15 11
Hotel Fund Investments	...	10,239	19 1				
" " Advance against unissued Scrip	...	51	6 0	Savings Bank—Due to depositors (including interest to 30th June, 1906)	...	25,195	16 3
" " "Straits" Government Loan.	...	10,100	0 0	Excess of assets over liabilities	...	35,153	8 1
Cash lent at interest by Crown Agents	...	25,362	2 9				
Savings Bank, Invested to 30th June, 1906, £26,016 3s. 5d., costing	...	42	9 3				
" Income Tax	...	—	—				
" Crown Agents in transit	...	1,043	11 11				
" Balance Cash—	...	2,891	8 11				
In office	...	232	17 4				
In Bank	...	1,080	0 0				
Cable Repair Fund—Invested, £6,306 1s. 8d.*	...	62,836	0 3	Total	...	62,836	0 3
Customs Bonds maturing	...						
Miscellaneous Advances	...						
Telephone Loan—Advance by Treasury under Law 22 of 1906	...						
Total	...						

* To this Fund Colony contributes £700 a year up to 1911 inclusive. In 1912 Government and Contractors divide whatever sum stands to credit of Fund.

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st March, 1906, was put at £27,092 0s. 2d.

PUBLIC DEBT.
8. The following is a statement of the Public Debt in a new and improved form:—

Debits Outstanding.	To whom due.	Rate of Interest.	When incurred and for what cause.	Provisions for Payment of Interest or Sinking Fund, and Enactments by which it is made.	Amount of Original Debt.	Amount Repaid or held for Repayment.	Remarks.
£ s. d. 23,253 6 7	Various persons in debentures of £100.	£4 10s. per cent. per annum paid half- yearly.	In 1885. The failure of the Nassau Public Bank to liquidate certain claims against the Govern- ment.	Principal and Interest secured by 48 & 49 Vict., c. 24, which provides that so long as any debentures remain outstanding the sum of £1,925 shall be remitted from General Revenue annually to Crown Agents who shall pay the interest and other charges, and (1) either invest the remainder by way of Sinking Fund, (2) purchase debentures in the open market, or (3) reduce the debt by the annual drawing of as many debentures as the balance will allow.	£ s. d. 35,000 0 0	£ s. d. 11,741 13 5	Eight debentures of £100 each were drawn for pay- ment by the Crown Agents. The seventeenth annual drawing took place on 1st August, 1906. Bonds redeemed, £11,300; Sinking Fund, £1,741 13s. 5d.; Total £13,041 13s. 5d.
28,920 4 8	Various persons in debentures of £ s. d. 100 0 0 150 0 0 100 0 0 2,000 0 0 1,000 0 0 200 0 0 500 0 0 175 0 0 70 0 0 175 13 8 29 0 0 125 0 0 126 6 8	£4 per cent. per annum paid quarterly.	In 1888. For the purpose of redeem- ing outstanding de- bentures which had from time to time been issued within these Islands.	Revenue Debentures redeemable 35 years after date of issue. A Sinking Fund was established by 63 Vict., c. 7, to which a first contribution was made of £10,000 from Surplus Funds, and it is provided that £500 be annually added.	48,126 0 2	19,205 15 8	Sinking Fund to 31st March, 1907, £18,107 17s. 1d. Advance against unissued Scrip Straits Settle- ments Government Loan, £1,097 18s. 6d.; Total, £19,205 15s. 8d.
17,812 8 3	Various persons in debentures of £100 £500	£4 per cent. per annum paid quarterly.	January, 1892. Telegraph cable be- tween Bahamas and Florida.	55 Vict., c. 1, charged on General Revenue Debentures redeemable 30 years after date of issue, £550 per annum to be added to Sinking Fund.	30,000 0 0	12,187 13 9	Sinking Fund to 31st March, 1907, £11,728 10s. 1d.; unissued Scrip Straits Settlements Government Loan, £485 3s. 8d.; Total, £12,187 13s. 9d.
£59,990 17 6					£113,126 0 2	£43,135 2 8	

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

9. The value of the imports during the year 1906 is computed at £329,115, including £15,729 in specie, as compared with £308,544 in 1905, £16,591 in specie.

10. They were distributed as follows:—

Country.	Amount 1906.	Amount 1905.
	£	£
From United Kingdom	63,050 ^o	76,978†
„ United States	250,288†	219,645§
„ Canada	3,050	3,950
„ British West Indies	5,316	4,372
„ Foreign Countries other than United States of America.	7,411	3,599
Total	329,115	308,544

^o Including £8,080 in specie. † Including £2,591 in specie.

‡ Including £14,000 in specie. § Including £2,591 in specie.

11. The values of the principal articles imported, as compared with the previous year, were:—

Articles.	Value of Imports, 1905.	Value of Imports, 1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic liquors—				
Ale, cider, porter	2,041	2,493	479	—
Brandy	85	102	17	—
Gin... ..	2,025	2,520	495	—
Liqueurs and cordials	582	— ^o	—	582
Rum	2,295	2,247	—	48
Whisky	1,749	1,950	201	—
Wines	898	1,115	217	—
Alcohol	10	20	10	—
Automobiles	—	739	739	—
Bicycles	378	455	77	—
Butter and cheese	7,677	8,018	341	—
Cattle... ..	1,966	1,650	—	361
Coffee... ..	2,171	2,966	795	—
Corn, corn meal, and hominy	13,432	7,824	—	5,608
Coal	1,860	1,317	—	543
Fertilisers	1,292	918	—	374
Flour, &c.	39,034	35,572	—	3,462
Gasoline	450	290	—	160
Hay, oats, and bran... ..	3,798	4,237	439	—
Horses	364	54	—	310
Carried forward	82,107	74,487	3,810	11,448

* If any liqueurs have been imported they have been accounted for under other heads.

Value of Principal Articles Imported—cont.

Articles.	Value of Imports, 1905.	Value of Imports, 1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward ...	82,107	74,487	3,810	11,448
Ice	1,511	1,297	—	214
Lard	4,744	4,564	—	180
Lumber and shingles ...	9,321	6,115	—	3,206
Machinery	6,442	4,885	—	1,557
Meat, fresh	4,046	4,786	740	—
Meat, salt	9,479	11,116	1,637	—
Oil, kerosene	3,427	2,163	—	1,264
Tomatoes and onions ...	1,512	1,336	—	176
Rice	10,031	10,028	—	3
Rope and canvas	5,846	7,151	1,305	—
Soap	1,757	1,678	—	79
Sugars	11,160	14,350	3,190	—
Tea	963	1,049	86	—
Tobacco and cigars	6,304	4,313	—	1,991
Unenumerated—				
Earthenware, glassware, &c.	41,036	58,159	17,123	—
Hardware, tinware, &c. ...	12,905	14,504	1,599	—
Preserved meats, fish, &c.	16,354	26,066	9,712	—
Textile fabrics	52,488	50,930	—	1,558
All other articles	10,547*	14,454	3,907	—
Totals	291,953	313,386	43,109	21,676
Specie... ..	16,591	15,729	—	862
Totals	308,544	329,115	43,109	22,538

* In Blue Book Report for 1905-6 these figures were £12,795, which included certain articles (alcohol, bicycles and coal) now separately enumerated.

12. For the absolute accuracy of the figures under this head I cannot vouch, although I have taken the greatest trouble to verify them. The system under which they are compiled is not satisfactory, but the Receiver-General's Department is under-manned, and, as stated in my report for 1905-6, para. 22, there should be added to that Department a statistical clerk, whose sole duty should be to examine and classify all entries for goods inwards and outwards.

13. The returns call for no particular comment. The bulk of our trade is, and must be, with the United States. An increase of trade with Canada had been anticipated, whereas, according to the figures, there was a decrease. But I am informed that importers often omit to describe their goods as the produce of Canada, and as they are in a great measure imported *via* New York, they appear in the returns as having been imported from the United States. Certificates of origin are not demanded in this Colony.

14. The total exports were valued at £221,925 (which includes £9,459 in specie). £210,775 represent the produce of the Colony. The figures in 1905 were £222,905 (including £12,943 in specie), and £204,293.

15. The following table gives the particulars of the export of the main articles of Colonial produce:—

Article.	Exports, 1905.		Exports, 1906.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Sponge lbs.	1,486,128	113,753	1,528,802	115,528
Pineapples dozen.	197,546	19,776	146,487	11,524
Grape fruit No.	564,061	2,397	430,134	1,837
Bahamas hemp (sisal) lb.	3,040,045	37,522	3,867,034	40,140
Turtle shell lb.	7,923	8,527	8,720	9,600
Oranges No.	1,706,318	1,388	567,269	783
Shells (conch) No.	827,491	2,836	708,465	1,669
Bark lb.	114,933 ^a	1,272	93,465	1,303
Hardwood tons.	614	798	475	732
Pineapples, preserved cases.	64,606	11,713	117,196	19,090
Cotton lb.	6,676	119	13,105	274
Salt bushels.	40,037	546	96	2
Cocoanuts No.	15,950	34	297,850	710
Lumber feet.	nil	nil	1,162,121	5,498
Shingles No.	nil	nil	89,400	103

^a In the report for 1905 this appeared as £4,933 by a clerical error.

16. The exportations of sisal are steadily growing.

17. Fresh pineapples are not exported to so large an extent as formerly, but on the other hand there is a very large increase in the export of the preserved variety.

18. The export of grapefruit and oranges has gone down considerably; also of salt, now practically nil.

19. New items of export of Colonial produce appear under the heads of cocoanuts and "lumber." I remark further on these points under the head of agricultural industries.

20. Colonial produce was exported to the following countries:—

Country.	1905.	1906.
	£	£
United Kingdom	12,520	16,499
Canada	2,568	2,018
Jamaica	438	1,028
United States	141,149	126,381
Other Foreign Countries	47,623	64,795
Total	204,293	210,775

21. The increased value of exports to the United Kingdom is partly accounted for by the greater exportation of sponge. No sisal appears to have been exported to England during the year, but a small quantity (value £1,438) went to Canada. In spite of this, I regret to note that the exportations to Canada have decreased, although a steamer of the Elder-Dempster Line ran periodically during the year.

22. The United States took nearly £15,000 less sponge than in 1905, but there was an increase in the value of the exportations of that article to France of some £9,000, and to Germany of £6,000.

23. I subjoin a return of the value of imports and exports for the last five years:—

Year.				Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.	Total.
				£	£	£
1902	...	...	...	306,095	207,601	513,699
1903	...	...	...	294,590	210,493	505,083
1904	...	...	...	297,241	194,936	492,177
1905	...	...	...	308,544	222,905	531,449
1906	...	...	...	329,115	221,925	551,040

(B.) MINES AND QUARRIES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

24. Mines, none. Limestone for building is found in most of the larger islands, valued at the quarry at 10*d.* per cubic foot.

Pineapples.

25. The J. S. Johnson Company have rearranged and made substantial additions to their factory at Nassau, while Messrs. A. & A. Griffins have remodelled and built a two-storey factory at Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera.

26. In 1906 the J. S. Johnson Company purchased 242,242 dozen pineapples for canning purposes, as against 162,118 dozen in 1905, an increase of 80,124 dozen. A. & A. Griffin purchased in 1906 124,000 dozen, in 1905 80,000 dozen, an increase of 44,000 dozen.

27. The exports of preserved pineapples were 117,196 cases, as compared with 64,606 cases in 1905; valued at £19,090 and £11,713 respectively.

28. The Board of Agriculture have a special grant of £100 from the House of Assembly for the purpose of making practical experiments in the cultivation of pineapples, testing fertilizers, and the best methods of applying the same.

Sisal Factories.

29. There were five factories in New Providence. The J. S. Johnson Company have two factories, with two cleaning machines; 1,500 acres are planted, and the output was about 39 tons.

30. The Bahamas Fibre Company have three factories and about 1,350 acres. One Todd and one Villamor machine are in use, and the output was about 70 tons.

31. At Little Abaco the Sisal Fibre Company has two cleaning machines; one Todd and one Torrorella machine are in use. About 5,000 acres are planted, and thirteen miles of railroad laid. The output was 260 tons.

32. There are two factories at Inagua, one only in operation, which produced about 20 tons.

Messrs. R. H. Sawyer and Co. have a factory at Abaco. At San Salvador there are two factories, with three cleaning machines, which, however, were not in operation. The plantations are nearly exhausted.

33. The Curator reports that the prospects of sisal are most encouraging. Sisal cultivation is steadily increasing, 25,000 acres being now under cultivation. The fibre produced is of good quality and strength, although there are still complaints about short and badly-cleaned fibre. As much as six cents per pound has been obtained during the greater part of the year for hand-cleaned fibre, while 8 and 9 cents are common figures for machine-cleaned.

Sponging.

34. I subjoin extracts from the report of the Sponge Board (now the "Marine Products Board") for 1906:—

Since making its last report to the Legislature, the reserves in the Bight of Abaco and at Deadman's Cay, Long Island, have been opened for fishing.

The closure for the Abaco Bight extended from the 1st April, 1905, to the 15th July, 1906, a period sufficiently long to afford an opportunity of judging the benefits obtained from the closure.

It is gratifying to be able to state that there was a marked improvement in the size of the sponges gathered from these waters.

For the purpose of maintaining the size of the sponges in the Abaco Bight and the adjacent waters, a rule was made restricting the smallest size of the wool and velvet sponges gathered there to not less than five inches in their widest part.

This rule came into force as soon as the beds were opened and the Board is glad to be able to report that its enforcement has been loyally accepted by the spongers.

In making this regulation, the Board has followed the example of the Fishery Boards in Florida and Cuba, whose regulations restrict the size of sponge gathered in those waters to not less than 4 or 5 inches respectively under severe penalties.

For the proper enforcement of the rule limiting the size of wool and velvet sponge, an Inspector has been appointed, whose duty it is to examine the sponge gathered from the Bight of Abaco and adjacent waters and to seize all wool and velvet sponges under 5 inches, and to keep a record of the sale of sponges gathered from these places.

This work has been carried on very effectively, and the Board is glad to report that only a few cases of wilful violation are on record. A small number of undersized sponges have been seized and are in custody of the Board.

The Board is not in a position to state whether or not sponges germinate at the size of four or five inches, but from information derived from the fishermen, it is led to believe that they do; and, therefore, the five-inch rule, if adhered to, ought to maintain a number of sponges for breeding purposes and keep the beds supplied continually.

For information on this and various other points connected with the life and growth of sponges, some of the members of the Board deem it desirable that scientific assistance should be employed to investigate the growth and life of sponge, and to assist them in devising measures for the preservation of other sea products.

The Board would like to restrict the size of wool and velvet sponges gathered from the whole of the sponging grounds in the Colony, but do not see their way clear to do this without appointing inspectors at the different stations where sponges are sold, a proceeding which would involve great expense.

The Board has just closed the valuable sponging grounds at Exuma known as the Hog Cay Bank, a district that is now almost denuded of sponge.

The watchman's report on these grounds, as well as what the Board has learned from other sources, shows that a period of rest is required for these beds to recuperate, and the Board can only continue the closure to the 31st day of May next, unless the Act is continued.

* * * * *

Fishery boards have had to be established in various countries for protecting and maintaining the supply of their sea products, and the need of the Board for controlling the sea products of this Colony is becoming more and more apparent. With enlarged powers and a larger grant the Board believes it will be one of the most useful boards in the Colony.

Should the Legislature continue the expiring Act, amending it so that the entire harvest of the sea be placed under its control, it will be necessary to increase the present grant to £300 per annum.

35. During the Session recently closed an Act was passed enlarging the powers of the Board, and enabling them to deal with other sea products, such as turtle and conchs, but the House of Assembly have not thought fit to make a grant of money to secure the services of a marine biologist to investigate the whole question of sponge growth in Bahamian waters.

36. The exports of sponge were, in 1905, 1,486,128 lbs., valued at £113,753, and in 1906 1,528,802 lbs., valued at £115,528, an increase in quantity of 42,674 lbs. and in value of £1,775.

37. The table annexed gives a comparative return of sponge exported for the last five years:—

Comparative Return of Sponge Exported, 1902-1906.

Country to which exported.	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
United Kingdom...	lbs. 179,797	£ 8,867	lbs. 118,785	£ 8,619	lbs. 100,827	£ 8,251	lbs. 95,499	£ 5,387	lbs. 175,938	£ 10,258
Canada	3,872	792	2,631	257	781	214	1,457	420	—	—
United States of America	753,382	50,339	963,397	58,890	790,652	53,287	864,558	61,548	783,386	45,296
France	110,455	13,865	72,289	8,553	88,957	10,345	100,715	11,956	140,253	21,161
Holland	126,693	11,546	161,605	11,892	128,359	9,902	158,488	14,519	111,074	12,372
Germany	132,710	11,184	169,145	13,991	292,659	23,235	254,494	20,096	307,173	26,206
Russia	12,361	991	27,774	2,192	5,723	484	10,441	666	1,113	94
Italy	—	—	—	—	—	—	4,396	125	9,863	140
Totals	1,319,270	97,584	1,515,626	104,394	1,407,958	105,718	1,490,148	113,753	1,528,809	115,527

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

38. I subjoin extracts from the report of the Board of Agriculture:—

Among the many questions that have engaged the attention of the Board during the year, the following call for special comment.

Fruit and Sisal Inspection.—There seems to be no doubt that the Bahamian products, chiefly citrus fruit and hand-cleaned sisal, are being brought into bad repute in foreign markets by the shipment of poor and badly-graded fruit and badly-cleaned sisal made from short and immature leaves. The Board feels it to be its duty to express its opinion that serious and permanent damage will be inflicted on some of the most important and promising industries of the Colony if some system of Government inspection, or some agreement among cultivators and shippers, is not strictly enforced.

Experiments in the cultivation and curing of Tobacco.—The Board thinks that the results of the experiments made on a limited scale in 1906 justify more elaborate tests of soils and cultivation, but it is impossible to assign from the present grant the amount asked for by the Curator for this purpose.

Experiments in the cultivation of Pine-apple, with special reference to fertilizing and the introduction of new varieties.—The Board considers it very desirable that such experiments should be made by cultivating one acre of each of the two kinds of land in which pine-apples are being largely planted in New Providence, but the present grant will not permit this extension of work already undertaken. Pine-apple growers feel the need of more knowledge of fertilisers and the methods of applying them, and special appeals have been made to the Board for assistance in this direction.

* * * * *

Roads at the Out-Islands.—The Board is convinced that there can be no substantial development in agriculture in these islands without roads suitable for wheel traffic, and hopes that the Legislature will soon initiate a definite scheme of regular though gradual improvement and extension of Out-Island roads. Such roads as are used on the large plantations in New Providence could be made at a moderate cost.

The Board is pleased to be able to report that the people throughout the Colony are showing an increasing interest and confidence in agriculture. The cultivation of sisal is steadily extending, and other crops are being tried. The Board is grateful for the able assistance rendered by many of the resident justices, who take a keen, intelligent, and practical interest in the development of the Out-Islands, and are doing excellent work.

Sisal.

39. The Curator states that 25,000 acres are now under cultivation, but, as stated in my report of 1905, too much reliance cannot be placed on these figures. But there is no doubt that the cultivation of sisal is steadily increasing, especially in the out-islands. Unfortunately in spite of the

efforts of the Resident Justices and the Curator, many cultivators continue to cut immature fibre, and do not sufficiently clean it. The Chairman of the Board of Agriculture goes so far as to say that the shipment from the Bahamas of badly-cleaned sisal made from short and immature leaves is bringing the product into bad repute in foreign markets, and it would seem to be most desirable that some system of Government inspection and grading on exportation should be instituted (not only with regard to sisal, but also with respect to other Colonial produce).

3,867,034 lbs., valued at £40,140, were exported in 1906, as against 3,040,045 lbs., valued at £37,522 in 1905.

40. Sisal is easily cultivated, but I noticed with regret in a tour of the Colony which I made last year that it is in some places grown on land that would produce vegetables, simply because the former gives no trouble and the latter do. Land suited for the cultivation of vegetables is scarce in these islands.

Grape-Fruit.

41. 430,134 were exported, as against 564,061 in 1905 and 231,096 in 1904, with values respectively of £1,837, £2,397, and £1,374. The crop was short.

Oranges.

42. There was a very considerable decrease in the export of oranges. In 1905 1,706,318 were exported, value £1,388; in 1906 only 567,269, value £783. But in 1905 a Canadian exported over a million oranges from Eleuthera alone. The venture was, however, not successful, and was not repeated in 1906.

43. Very satisfactory work was done at the Agricultural Experimental Station in Nassau, and I annex a report by the Curator* dealing fully, and in a most interesting manner, with the various cultivations, and with the condition of agriculture in the out-islands.

Lumber.

44. The Bahamas Timber Company, Limited, which has a concession at Abaco, sawed during 1906 3,360,464 feet of lumber and 265,800 shingles.

The company is largely extending its operations, and is likely to employ a large amount of labour.

An adjoining tract of land has been leased to another firm for the purpose of exploiting the pine timber thereon.

* See Appendix.

Cocoanuts.

45. It will be seen from the Curator's report that the Florida Refining Company, of Jacksonville, made large purchases, and the cultivation is likely to grow.

(D.) LAND GRANTS.

46. The total number of acres granted is put at 368,127, and the total remaining ungranted at 1,767,423. The total number of acres of Crown land sold in 1906 was 167, as against 86 in 1905.

47. The practice of squatting on Crown lands is very prevalent. When possible, steps are taken to eject squatters or to make them pay for the lands occupied.

48. The staff of surveyors at the disposal of the Government is quite inadequate, and in many cases lands granted two or more years ago remain unsurveyed.

(E.) SHIPPING.

49. The following return gives the number and tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared in 1906 as compared with 1905:—

Sailing Vessels.

	1905.				1906.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
United Kingdom ...	1	395	—	—	—	—	—	—
U.S. America ...	112	13,114	111	12,049	125	12,720	110	11,424
British West Indies	53	1,811	65	1,739	61	1,805	84	3,076
Cuba ...	14	1,302	4	203	16	1,310	16	1,317
Hayti ...	24	292	15	196	10	198	7	149
Central America ...	1	133	3	336	—	—	3	447
Spanish West Indies	1	133	1	74	—	—	—	—
Mexico ...	—	—	1	602	1	90	3	390
Nova Scotia ...	1	108	2	304	—	—	—	—
South America ...	—	—	1	720	—	—	—	—
Porto Rico ...	—	—	—	—	1	309	—	—
Canada ...	—	—	—	—	1	298	—	—
Danish West Indies	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	21
Totals ...	207	17,288	203	16,223	215	16,730	225	16,824

50. The following is a similar return for steam vessels:—

Steam Vessels.

	1905.				1906.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1. United Kingdom	—	—	—	—	6	14,844	5	12,360
2. U.S. America ...	200	390,827	154	246,367	240	425,686	242	420,713
3. British West Indies.	13	20,986	63	174,063	59	126,861	92	201,059
4. South America	13	30,255	9	20,288	35	77,886	15	33,901
5. Hayti ...	22	30,890	50	72,456	10	15,438	52	80,138
6. Cuba ...	32	59,204	36	67,445	26	47,824	29	58,413
7. Mexico ...	5	9,705	10	17,459	9	18,509	15	30,405
8. Danish West Indies.	1	2,389	—	—	1	2,277	—	—
9. British Honduras.	1	2,389	4	8,532	2	4,778	3	7,167
10. U. S. Columbia	30	46,977	—	—	55	91,212	—	—
11. Canada ...	7	12,826	—	—	10	19,031	1	1,827
12. Portugal ...	1	1,103	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Porto Rico ...	1	1,123	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Guatemala ...	—	—	1	1,165	—	—	—	—
15. Central America	—	—	1	1,482	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	326	608,673	328	609,195	453	844,346	454	845,983

51. The number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared during 1906, distinguishing nationalities, are given in the following return:—

Nationality.	Sailing Vessels.				Steam Vessels.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1. British ...	167	8,482	179	8,682	42	91,959	42	91,959
2. American ...	42	8,147	40	8,041	115	201,045	116	201,837
3. Cuban ...	1	30	1	30	2	2,080	1	2,034
4. Haytian ...	4	64	4	64	—	—	—	—
5. Dominican ...	1	7	1	7	—	—	—	—
6. German ...	—	—	—	—	273	534,005	274	534,896
7. Norwegian ...	—	—	—	—	21	15,257	21	15,257
Totals ...	215	16,730	225	16,824	453	844,346	454	845,983
Totals in 1905 ...	207	17,288	203	16,223	326	608,673	328	609,195

* See para. 56.

52. The following is a statement of the total shipping inwards and outwards for the past five years:—

—	Sailing Vessels.				Steam Vessels.				Totals.	
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.			
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1902 ..	270	22,521	267	22,155	296	499,514	297	500,393	1,130	1,044,588
1903 ..	242	19,796	239	19,205	287	542,325	283	542,561	1,056	1,023,887
1904 ..	224	17,424	226	17,831	287	523,625	286	521,801	1,023	1,060,681
1905 ..	207	17,288	203	16,223	326	608,673	328	609,195	1,064	1,251,379
1906 ..	215	16,730	225	16,824	453	844,346	454	845,983	1,347	1,723,883

53. The number of sailing vessels built in the Colony during the past five years was:—

Year.				Number.	Tonnage.
1902	...	...	...	25	555
1903	...	...	...	14	557
1904	...	...	...	18	299
1905	...	...	...	5	77
1906	...	...	...	13	229

54. It will be seen that there was a satisfactory increase in the number and tonnage of both sailing and steam vessels.

55. As compared with 1905 eight more British steamers entered, and nine more cleared, and one more American entered and cleared.

56. Two hundred and seventy-three German vessels entered, as against 162 in 1905; tonnage respectively, 534,005 and 333,734. A large number of these called at Inagua and Long Cay for the sole purpose of embarking and landing labourers for Mexico, Central America. But I find on enquiry that these figures are misleading, as prior to 1906 these vessels were not required to come to an entry, and were therefore not recorded in the Customs statistics; whereas now they are, as they should be, required to put in an entry in proper form.

III.—LEGISLATION.

57. The most important Act of the Session of 1907 was the Act for the protection of emigrant labourers (Ch. 3). Mention was made of the matter in paragraph 131 of my report for 1905-6. The general effect of the Act is to secure to the labourer the payment in full of his wages in the currency of the Colony, and thus to save him from becoming the prey of

middle-men. Some of the provisions of the Act are somewhat drastic, and fears have been expressed in some quarters that it may lead to the destruction of employment.

58. Another useful measure is the Truck Act (Ch. 4), which was designed to remedy the grievances of the employés of a pineapple-canning factory in one of the out-islands. At this factory wages were not payable until the end of the season; in the meantime the employers were in the habit of giving the workpeople tin checks, which could only be redeemed at the employers' own store, a system which was obviously liable to lead to abuse.

59. The Inter-Insular Mails Act (Ch. 7) should have the effect of improving the mail, passenger, and freight services between Nassau and the Out-Islands, and empowers the Governor in Council to incur considerably larger expenditure than has hitherto been voted, provided that larger sailing vessels or steamers are employed.

60. By Chapter 8 the Legislature voted a sum of £12,000 to provide electric light and electrical energy for the city of Nassau and its suburbs.

61. Chapter 9 declares the law with respect to marriages between a man and his deceased wife's sister. This Act, unless disallowed by His Majesty, will come into operation on the 1st of January, 1908.

62. In all 25 Acts were passed by the Legislature, to 24 of which the Governor has assented.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) PRIMARY.

63. The following table gives statistics of the primary schools. They do not include private and denominational schools:—

Year.	Board Schools.				Grant-in-Aid Schools.				Schools Aided by Grant of Material only.				Total.			
	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.
1904	45	7,393	6,226	4,533	11	1,105	1,017	585	4	208	180	150	60	8,706	7,423	5,268
1905	44	7,204	6,089	4,509	12	1,077	923	571	—	253	232	186	61	8,534	7,249	5,266
1906	46	7,314	6,154	4,592	16	1,199	1,042	632	—	—	—	—	62	8,513	7,196	5,224

64. The teaching staff under the Board was as follows:—

—	1904.	1905.	1906.
Principal teachers ...	44	44	46
Assistant teachers ...	3	6	8
Pupil teachers ...	5	6	5
Monitors... ..	107	112	132
Sewing teachers ...	5	7	9
Students in training ...	2	3	3
Employed in aided schools	13	13	16
Total ...	179	191	219

65. The total numbers receiving primary education are given in the following table:—

—	1904.			1905.			1906.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Board Schools	3,288	2,938	6,226	3,189	2,900	6,089	3,232	2,928	6,160
Aided Private Schools ..	530	487	1,017	493	435	928	576	489	1,065
Church of England	998	1,024	2,022	806	886	1,692	747	832	1,579
Roman Catholic	196	310	506	189	302	491	2,111	268	479
Private Schools	113	155	268	185	154	289	138	188	326
Total	5,125	4,914	10,039	4,812	4,677	9,489	4,904	4,705	9,609

66. The average cost per child was 19s. 9½d., as against 19s. 11d. in 1905, and £1 12s. 9d. in 1884.

67. I subjoin an extract from the report of the Board of Education, which gives some idea of the difficulties they have to meet:—

The Division of the population of these Islands into so many small and isolated communities tends very greatly to increase the cost of education. Where good discipline has been established, a teacher can as easily instruct whatever number of pupils of the same standard can be brought within the effective range of his eye and voice (say 40 to 60) as any smaller number; and this gives an enormous economic advantage to large schools when compared with such as are alone practicable in this Colony, where the teacher frequently has to spend his time in teaching half-a-dozen or less. Notwithstanding this the cost as given above, considering that in addition to salaries it covers sites, buildings, furniture, materials, and every expense of whatever kind, is surprisingly small. But the consequence is that most or all of the schools are understaffed; the salaries of principal teachers (average about £64) are less than those of tidewaiters and lighthouse keepers; in many cases the accommodation is inadequate or out of condition; and all that can be afforded for books and materials amounts to only about six pence per annum for each child who passes through the schools.

68. During the past Session the Legislature increased the grant from £4,700 to £5,000, the small addition to be devoted to increasing the pay of deserving teachers.

69. As in the previous year, heavy rains rendered many Out-Island roads almost impassable, thereby injuriously

affecting the schools; and in October Abaco and Grand Bahama were visited by a hurricane. Malarial and other fevers were more than usually prevalent among the children.

70. In New Providence 154 cases were reported under the compulsory attendance section of the Act, or 32 less than in 1905. Fifteen were not tried, 39 were dismissed, 34 orders made, 62 fined, 4 truants.

In the Out-Islands 675 cases were reported (or nearly 100 less than in 1905); 87 were not tried, 122 were dismissed, 187 orders made, 277 fined, 2 truants.

In each case although the number of cases reported were fewer than last year, the number of punishments accorded was much greater.

71. The Curator of the Botanic Station gave a series of lectures on agricultural subjects to some of the Out-Island teachers, who came into Nassau for the August vacation. The course is not being repeated this year on account of the expense, but I hope that next year the Board will see their way to make similar arrangements.

But the difficulties attending the establishment of school gardens in most of the Out-Islands are, as I know from personal observation, very great, owing to the scarcity of suitable plots adjacent to the school-houses and the want of soil.

72. In addition to the schools under the control of the Board there were 27 maintained by the Church of England, five of which are in New Providence. Total roll, 1,579; average roll, 886.

In 1905 there were 29 such schools, with a total roll of 1,692, and an average roll of 943.

73. There were also three Roman Catholic schools (two in New Providence and one in Andros Island), total roll 479; and sixteen private schools, roll 326.

(B.) SECONDARY EDUCATION.

74. There is unfortunately no State provision for secondary education at present.

75. Private organizations connected with religious bodies provided higher instruction as follows:—

—	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Queen's College	28	20	48
Kindergarten	14	11	25
St. Hilda's School... ..	4	20	24
Nassau Grammar School... ..	20	—	20
St. Francis Xavier's Academy	12	24	36
Governor's Harbour (Eleuthera)	6	10	16
Total	84	85	169
Total for 1905	60	95	155

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS. (B.) ASYLUMS. (C.) POORHOUSE.

76. These institutions are all included under the head of the New Providence Asylum.

77. The number of inmates on the 1st January, 1906, was:—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Alexandra Hospital	40	29	69
Victoria Infirmary	15	17	32
Lunatic Asylum	20	17	37
Leper Asylum	6	1	7
Totals	81	64	145

78. Five hundred and thirty-seven patients were admitted during the year, making the total number under treatment 683, of whom 247 were discharged recovered, 111 relieved, 82 discharged not improved, and 96 died.

79. At the close of the year 129 remained, and were distributed as follows:—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Alexandra Hospital	34	22	56
Victoria Infirmary	14	17	31
Lunatic Asylum	18	15	33
Leper Hospital	8	1	9
Totals	74	55	129

80. The Assistant Surgeon visited 403 cases at their homes, and treated 3,816 at the dispensary.

81. The number of prescriptions dispensed at the Public Dispensary was:—

Dispensary patients	7,219
Asylum	6,075
Police and gaol... ..	1,278
Public physicians	1,023
Total	15,595

a decrease of 3,760 as compared with the previous year.

82. The affairs of the institution are administered by a Board of Commissioners, to which the Legislature votes £6,000

a year. The actual expenditure in the year 1906-7 was £4,855.

83. The new Act referred to in my last report only came into force on the 1st May last, when a lay Superintendent was appointed, and the Resident Surgeon relieved of his non-professional duties.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

84. The number of depositors on the 30th June, 1906 (the end of the "Savings Bank year") was 1,971, on the 30th June, 1905, 1,864, and on the 30th June, 1904, 1,700.

85. The deposits and withdrawals were as follows:—

Year ended 30th June	Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
1904	3,217	7,884	2,230	7,846
1905	3,751	10,447	2,216	7,272
1906	3,858	9,791	2,528	8,580

86. The balance due to depositors was, on the 30th June, 1906, £25,196, as against £23,431 in 1905 and £19,788 in 1904.

87. The assets and liabilities are given as follows:—

Year ended 30th June	Assets.	Excess of Assets over Liabilities.
	£	£
1904	20,621	834
1905	24,465	1,034
1906	26,448	1,252

88. The average amount to the credit of each account on the 30th June, 1906, was £15 3s. 7d., as against £12 11s. 5d. on the 30th June, 1905.

89. In the first year of the establishment of the Savings Bank (1886) there were 344 depositors, £3,055 deposits, and £379 withdrawals.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

90. The Commandant reports that the number of persons prosecuted by the police in New Providence was 834, of whom 349 were reported and 485 arrested; in 1905 the number was 1,091.

91. There were prosecuted:—

193 cases of profane language in public;	
75 cases of drunkenness in public;	
85 cases of fighting in public;	
49 cases of assault;	
25 cases of breach of the Street Traffic Acts;	
46 cases of breach of Sponge Acts; and	
38 cases of breach of Dog Acts.	

92. The strength of the force on the 1st January, 1907, was:—

In barracks, officers	...	...	...	1
„ rank and file	...	...	...	43
Out of barracks	...	...	...	16
At Out-Islands	...	...	...	9
Local constables, New Providence	...	...	...	2
„ „ Out-Islands	...	...	...	27
Board of Education constable	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	100

93. There were 17 outbreaks of fire in Nassau, of which three are known or believed to be accidental, and in eleven cases incendiarism was suspected.

94. Property to the value of £5,465 was endangered, the insurance on which amounted to £3,269. The owners of destroyed property give the value as £3,077, of which £2,708 was not covered by insurance.

(B.) PRISONS.

95. The Inspector of Prisons reports that the following punishments were inflicted in 1906:—

Solitary confinement	...	...	...	37
Lower diet	...	...	...	45
Crank	...	...	...	29
Forfeiture of marks	...	...	...	1
Whipping (juveniles)	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	113

96. This is three less than in the previous year, although the number of prisoners was large, but it should be stated that several serious cases were sent to the Law Courts for disposal.

97. Five prisoners escaped during the year, but were re-captured. They escaped from gangs working outside the prison, and in consequence it has been necessary to increase the number of overseers.

98. The sanitary condition of the prison was very good. There were two deaths, both from natural causes.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

99. The following is a table of the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last five years (comparative table):—

	1902	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates.	2,827	3,006	2,849	3,016	2,585
Number of summary convictions :					
(1) For offences against the person	290	278	277	286	293
(2) For prædial larceny	35	50	49	40	24
(3) For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	101	119	102	107	102
(4) For other offences	1,756	1,717	1,922	1,723	1,435
Number of convictions in the Superior Court :					
(1) For offences against the person	10	15	11	17	9
(2) For prædial larceny	1	—	—	—	2
(3) For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	16	19	13	5	3
(4) For other offences	6	2	4	5	7
Number of persons acquitted :					
(1) In Inferior Court... ..	385	481	385	545	451
(2) In Superior Court	20	8	27	10	10

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

100. The population by the census of 1901 was 53,735.

101. Estimated population on the 31st December, 1906, was 59,142.

Births in 1906, 2,217—Birth rate, 41·2.

Deaths in 1906, 1,250—Death rate, 23·2.

Marriages, 472.

102. No death certificates are required in this Colony.

103. The area and population by the census of 1901 of the various Islands were as follows:—

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abaco and Cays	776	1,568	1,746	3,314
Acklin's Island	120	704	861	1,565
Andros Island	1,600	3,192	3,155	6,347
Berry Islands	14	210	173	383
Biminis	8½	263	282	545
Cays Sal and Lobos	7	9	9	18
Crooked Island	76	731	866	1,597
Eleuthera	164	4,159	4,574	8,733
Exuma and Cays	100	1,373	1,713	3,086
Grand Bahama	430	869	911	1,780
Harbour Island	1½	573	659	1,232
Inagua	560	748	705	1,453
Long Cay	8	257	242	499
Long Island	130	1,610	1,952	3,562
Mayaguana	96	161	174	335
New Providence	58	5,492	7,042	12,534
Ragged Island and Cays	5	192	173	365
Ruma Cay	29	235	294	529
San Salvador... ..	160	2,090	2,568	4,658
Spanish Wells	½	271	263	534
Watling's Island	60	293	374	667
Total	4,403½	25,000	28,735	53,735

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

104. The Medical Inspector reports that the health of the Island of New Providence was very good. There were a few cases of typhoid fever, and some mild influenza. Malarial fevers, unlike those of the previous year, were very mild in type, with little or no mortality.

105. Two hundred and forty-three successful vaccinations were performed in the Island of New Providence and 1,933 in the Out-Islands.

106. The Government has under consideration some rules compelling the people to take certain measures with a view of suppressing mosquito-borne disease.

107. A number of pamphlets on the subject have been distributed.

(C.) SANITATION.

108. The Medical Inspector reports that the general sanitation of the Island has been satisfactory, the water supply from springs and cisterns abundant, and the drainage good.

109. A number of seizures of diseased articles of food were made.

(D.) CLIMATE.

110. The rainfall during the year amounted to 59·60 inches, as against 54·69 inches in 1905 and 50·56 in 1904.

111. The following are the meteorological data for the past five years:—

Year.	Temperature.			Means of		Extremes of		Rainfall.
	8 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	
1902	77·8	80·0	79	80·3	70·5	94	55	37·76
1903	77·1	79·3	78·2	81·8	70·5	92	54	51·45
1904	77·2	80·0	78·6	82·3	70·8	91	52·5	50·56
1905	77·6	80·2	78·9	83·7	71·9	92·5	52	54·69
1906	76·7	79·2	77·9	81·18	70·9	88	64	59·60
Average for five years.	77·3	79·9	78·4	82·2	70·9	91·5	55·5	50·81

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

112. The postal revenue for 1906-7 was £3,831, as against £3,694 in 1905-6, an increase of £137. The expenditure was £6,796, but this does not include an unpaid mail subsidy of £875.

113. The sales of stamps amounted to £2,633, as against £2,535 in the previous year.

114. The total number of postal packets received and despatched was 538,838, as against 484,455 in 1905-6 and 468,066 in 1904-5.

115. The following table compares the quantities of postal matter received and despatched in 1905-6 and 1906-7:—

	Received.				Despatched.			
	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
Foreign—								
Letters and post-cards.	159,795	186,477	26,682	—	138,509	155,978	17,469	—
Newspapers and books.	85,184	84,184	—	1,000	14,344	12,250	—	2,094
Inter-insular—								
Letters and post-cards.	29,081	33,746	4,665	—	32,928	41,637	8,709	—
Newspapers and books.	685	585	—	50	24,079	23,981	—	98
Totals	274,695	304,992	31,347	1,050	209,860	233,846	26,178	2,192

116. As regards the parcel post:—

—				Number.	Value.
					£ s. d.
From United Kingdom	...	...	...	2,138	3,288 14 2
United States	...	...	...	2,899	1,981 16 7
To United Kingdom	...	...	...	405	384 14 4
United States	...	...	...	365	165 16 11
Totals	...	...	...	5,807	5,821 2 5

In 1905-6 the figures were:—

117. Parcels from United Kingdom, 2,277; value, £3,554.

„ „ United States, 2,987; value, £1,916.

118. Money orders issued and paid were as follows:—

Countries.				Issued.		Paid.	
				No.	Value.	No.	Value.
					£ s. d.		£ s. d.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	578	892 12 11	131	441 8 6
United States	...	...	...	1,113	1,090 13 11	327	1,121 2 2
Totals	...	...	...	1,691	1,983 6 10	458	1,562 10 8

119. This shows an increase of 155 in number, and £380 0s. 8d. in value of orders issued; and an increase of 22 in number and £452 18s. 3d. in value of orders paid, as compared with the previous year.

120. During the year 1906-7 1,081 British postal orders, value (including poundage) £400 12s. 2d., were issued, and 211 orders, value £105 11s. 1d., paid; as against 794, value £344 12s. 4d., issued, and 192, value £116 1s. 8d., paid in the previous year.

121. New money order conventions have recently been entered into with America and Canada, under which money orders are exchanged direct between Nassau (and also Inagua and Long Cay) and the various post offices of those countries without passing through the intermediary of the central office in each case.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

122. The revenue of the Telegraph Department was £1,258, and the expenditure £552. In the previous year the revenue was £1,520 and the expenditure £558. The decrease in

revenue was no doubt due to a falling off in the number of tourists last season. A total of 2,836 messages passed over the cable, of which 312 were to and from Great Britain and 2,524 to and from other countries. The total number in 1905 was 4,419, and in 1904 3,311.

123. The telegraph rates are as follows:—

				<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
Great Britain	...	...	...	2	6	a word.
Canada	...	...	...	1	8	"
Bermuda	...	...	...	2	10	"
Jamaica	...	...	...	3	0	"
Havana	...	...	...	1	8	"
United States (East)	...	...	...	1	6	"
" " (West)	...	...	...	1	10	"
Florida	...	...	...	1	3	"

124. In my report for 1905-6 I referred to the fact that a telephone exchange was being set up in the city of Nassau. It has been so successful that it is now about to be extended from the original one-mile to a three-mile limit, and further extensions will no doubt follow. The inception of the scheme was due to the Governor of the Colony—Sir William Grey-Wilson—and its execution to the ability and energy of Mr. P. H. Burns, the Superintendent of Telegraphs.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

125. The export of labour from Inagua and Long Cay continues to grow.

The Resident Justice of Inagua writes:—

Men employed on board ship (stevedores) receive 50 cents a day, and 10 cents an hour for overtime work, averaging in all about 90 cents a day. They are required to perform any duties that may be assigned to them. The principal lines are the Hamburg-American, Elder and Fyffes, and Geo. D. Emery, and other ships call occasionally. Labourers on the mainland are paid 16 dollars a month and free board and lodging—also extra pay for overtime. They work in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, British Honduras, Spanish Honduras, and Columbia.

The Resident Justice of Long Cay (Fortune Island) reports:—

The wages of labourers engaged as stevedores on ships calling at this port are 50 cents a day, with pay for overtime work at the rate of 10 cents an hour. That for those contracted for for dock work is 15 dollars per month, with overtime pay as for stevedores. Railway work, *i.e.*, for laying rails and other labour incidental to such employment, is paid for at 22 dollars 50 cents per month. The only companies which employ men from this port are the Hamburg-American line (German), the labourers being used for stevedore purposes and deck work, and the Panama Railroad Company, who employ them for work on their docks at Colon, and along the line of their railway to Panama City and elsewhere.

126. The subjoined table compares the labour traffic in 1906 with that of 1905 and 1904:—

	Number of steam vessels entered outward bound.	Number of labourers engaged.		Number of steam vessels entered home-ward bound.	Number of labourers brought back after expiration of engagement.	
		To work on board ship.	To work on docks or railway on mainland.		From working on board ship.	From dock or railway work on mainland.
Inagua :						
1904 ...	68	2,081	675	69	2,100	724
1905 ...	78	2,010	545	80	2,004	697
1906 ...	93	2,675	532	92	2,760	352
Long Cay :						
1904 ...	66	1,534	280	65	1,489	137
1905 ...	68	1,513	640	66	1,455	265
1906 ...	77	2,115	493	87	1,995	496

127. During the last Session of the Legislature an important Act was passed for the protection of emigrant labourers, to which reference is made under the head of "Legislation" in paragraph 57 of this report.

128. There were two hurricanes during the year. The first did a certain amount of local damage. The second did great harm, and caused loss of life among the labourers (many of whom were Bahamians) at the railway extension works in the Florida Cays. It swept the shores of the Eastern Islands of the Colony, and wrought havoc to the growing crops. A considerable number of buildings, including a church at Bimini, were wrecked, and temporary relief had to be afforded in certain localities.

129. The following is a statement of liquor licences issued in the Island of New Providence and Out-Islands, and revenue derived from them up to the 31st December, 1906:—

General.	Wholesale.	Hotel.	Special.	Amount Received.
77	25	2	2	£1,222 6s. 8d.

General, hotel, and special licences are retail licences.

W. HART BENNETT,

Colonial Secretary,

Administering the Government.

Nassau, Bahamas,

23rd August, 1907.

APPENDIX.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT WORK.

1. The general scheme of the Board of Agriculture for the Experiment Station may be shortly summarized as follows:—

- (a) To provide opportunities for the study of the staple crops of the Islands ; the conditions under which they are grown ; the results obtained by different methods of cultivation and manuring, and the introduction of new varieties ; the diseases and pests attacking them ; the method of preparing the products for market.
- (b) To diffuse information on all such matters by the publication of a monthly "Bulletin" and leaflets, by instruction in scientific agriculture, and generally by conferences or meetings with cultivators.
- (c) To distribute seed and plants therefrom.

2. The work done at this Station during the year under review is indicated below.

3. *Broom Corn*.—A 1.32 acre plot was sown on 19th March and reaped on 9th July, 1906. The weight of heads reaped was 19½ lbs. or 624 lbs. per acre.

4. The cultivation of this crop has not yet been taken up in the Bahamas. It is hoped that this may be remedied in the future as, judging from the results obtained at this station, broom corn cultivation and broom making should form a fairly lucrative minor industry, and the small cultivators' attention may be called to it as worthy of being taken up experimentally on a small scale.

5. A further trial plot 1.16th of an acre was sown on 23rd October, 1906, and promises well.

6. The purpose of these experiments is, in the first place, to start a local industry, which will supply the demand for brooms existing here, at the present time supplied by importations from the United States.

7. At the December meeting of the Board of Agriculture brooms made at this station were exhibited. The Board commented on the good quality of the straw, the look and the appearance of the brooms, and it was thought that such should find a ready and remunerative market.

8. *Cassava*.—Bahama varieties. To test the agricultural yield of the various cassavas now in cultivation in the Bahamas, experiment plots were planted from the 21st August to 11th September, 1905. The tubers were lifted at nine months' growth and at twelve months' growth in order to ascertain when to lift them to get the best results. The weights of tubers of each variety per acre at nine months' growth and at twelve months' growth are as follows:—

At nine months' growth.

Blue Stick or Black Stick	19 tons	8 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.	per acre.
Red Skin	... 10 "	18 " 2 "	26 " "
White Spanish	... 7 "	17 " 3 "	25 " "
White Top	... 7 "	5 " 3 "	8 " "
White Stick	... 6 "	1 " 2 "	2 " "
Big George	... 3 "	0 " 3 "	1 " "

At 12 months' growth.

Blue Stick or Black Stick	21 tons	2 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs.	per acre.
Red Skin	... 15 "	15 " 3 "	22 " "
White Spanish	... 10 "	6 " 2 "	9 " "
White Top	... 14 "	11 " 2 "	16 " "
White Stick	... 13 "	7 " 1 "	10 " "
Big George	... 5 "	9 " 1 "	13 " "

9. The results of this careful series of field experiments show conclusively that cassava in the Bahamas will return a handsome profit under ordinary farm management.

10. White Top and White Stick made the greatest gain in the three months of the six varieties tested—over 7 tons per acre.

11. Large areas of land, at present producing little or nothing, could be profitably used for the growth of cassava for starch manufacture.

This is an industry that can be confidently recommended to capitalists and land owners as one of the most promising means of increasing our exportable produce without trenching upon land at present productive of other paying crops.

12. Cassava, Columbian varieties. Twenty cuttings each of the 10 best varieties of Columbian cassava were purchased from the Experiment Station, Hope, Jamaica. The propagation of these varieties is being pushed on as rapidly as possible; in a short time there will be large numbers of cuttings for distribution to the Out Islands. Experiments will be made to ascertain the best means of planting, the distance apart for producing the heaviest yields, and the best age to lift the tubers to get most starch.

13. The following is a list of the cassavas under cultivation at this station. Bahama varieties, Blue Stick or Black Stick, Red Skin or John de Marc, White Spanish, White Top, White Stick, Big George, Abraham, Black poison, and Blue Top.

Columbian varieties, Cenpuilla, Helada No. 4, Helada No. 9, Helada No. 15, Pacho No. 2, Pacho No. 3, Montero, Pie de Paloma, Pie de Pardy, Noto Seves.

14. *Citrus Fruit*.—Grape-fruit and oranges can be successfully grown in the Bahamas, but one thing is apparent in grape-fruit culture, however, and that is, that success is going to be largely a matter of using the right varieties. Many of the Bahama varieties are considered worthless.

15. In consequence of the importance which the industry has assumed of late, a citrus grove has been laid out at this station, and a thorough trial of the merits of the different varieties will be made.

16. A citrus nursery has been planted for students to practise budding, and to have stock in readiness for good buds.

17. The following is a list of the varieties already planted :—

Grape-fruit.—Marsh-seedless, Duncan, Pernambuco, Royal, Old Bahama, Sweet Bahama Forbidden Fruit, Spanish, and Bluff Sweet.

Oranges.—Navelencia, Marjorca, Homas-assa, Jaffa, Bessie, King, Washington Navel, Omassa, Satsuma, Tangarine.

18. *Corn (Maize)*.—There are four varieties of corn grown in the Bahamas, Native yellow, Native white, Caicos, and Governor. The Caicos variety is said to have been brought to these Islands from the Caicos Islands by persons engaged in sponging in those waters. The Governor takes its name from being supplied by the Government in 1883 and 1902.

19. Experiment plots each 1-16 of an acre were prepared and planted 19th March, 1906, harvested on 9th July.

The yields are as follows :—

Governor 23 bushels per acre.

Native yellow 21½ bushels per acre.

Caicos 16½ bushels per acre.

Native white 12½ bushels per acre.

20. The seed for this experiment was obtained from Exuma through the Resident Justice, and was found to be descended from good strains.

21. *Corn, Kaffir*.—Kaffir corn is a native of South Africa, and takes its name from the African tribes known as Kaffirs. Seed of Red Kaffir corn, White Kaffir corn, and Jerusalem White Kaffir corn was imported from America for distribution in Long Island and Exuma, and for testing purposes at this station.

22. Experiment plots each 1-16 of an acre were prepared and planted 19th March, 1906, harvested July, 1906. The yields of these three at this station are as follows :—

Red Kaffir corn 860 lbs. per acre.
 Jerusalem White Kaffir corn 740 lbs. per acre.
 White Kaffir 670 lbs. per acre.

Yield of fodder per acre :—

Red Kaffir corn 6·05 tons.
 Jerusalem White Kaffir corn 5·81 tons.
 White Kaffir corn 4·33 tons.

23. Under the same conditions the red variety has outyielded the white, both in grain and fodder ; it grows about one foot taller ; it matures its seed earlier, and the head always pushes clear of the upper sheath. It does not shell when handling, and has a more succulent stalk. On the other hand the white variety has a pleasanter taste and produces grain which is not at all astringent, and is therefore better relished by stock.

24. The Resident Justice for Exuma reports, " Mr. Fitzgerald informs me that with ordinary seasons the Kaffir corn sent for trial to this Island will mature in three months, and in his opinion is superior to that now planted (native Guinea corn), and if the yield is good it would be a great advantage to the planter."

25. Unlike Indian corn (maize) all varieties have the very desirable quality of remaining green after the grain matures. The fodder is therefore still in excellent condition when the grain ripens, and when cured will make better feed than if the plant had dried up as the corn plant does.

26. *Cotton*.—Experiment plots of Sea Island cotton were planted September and October, 1905, from seed purchased and supplied by the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, and Messrs. Landreth & Co., America, for the purpose of ascertaining the best time for planting, yield under different conditions of soil, &c. The plants grew remarkably well, especially in rich heavy soil, but the best yield of cotton appeared to be from light soil.

27. An apparently new and unknown insect made its appearance in the fields in March, 1906. It was evident as the bolls were nearly developed. They were punctured and soon fell off. Another indication of the presence of the insect in the fields was the flaring and falling of the squares or forms. However, this might have been caused by climatic conditions, namely, the heavy rains in February after a drought. One of the most interesting features of the pest was the fact that the infested spots in the fields spread rapidly. Under ordinary circumstances the presence of the insect would only be observed when the bolls begin to wither and fall off. To prevent the spread of the insect the plants from the three plots were taken up and burned, and the soil sprayed with Bordeaux mixture.

28. Specimens of the insects and bolls were sent to the Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, and to the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture.

29. The following reports were received : From the Bureau of Entomology, Washington. " In the absence of Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of this Bureau, I am answering your letter of 30th March, with accompanying specimens. The insect at work in the cotton bolls which you send, I am pleased to inform you, is not the cotton boll weevil, but an unknown species of pyralid. The specimens were dead when received. If we could obtain living specimens in good condition, we could breed the insect and then be able to write you in regard to its identity. There is, of course, a possibility of its being a pest, but it is more probable that this is a chance find, the insect living normally on some weed which it has exhausted owing to unusual numbers and has then resorted to the cotton for food. These pyralid larvæ usually have a pattern of markings similar to that of the garden web-worm."

30. From the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies. "I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 30th March, and the specimens of damaged cotton bud and bolls which accompanied it. The material has been examined by the entomologist on the staff of this department, who reports that he does not think the damage has been caused by the cotton boll-weevil, but probably by the boll worm *Heliothis (armigera) absoluta*, and who states that he found one larvæ which is the caterpillar of a moth very similar to, if not identical with, that of the boll worm; but certainly not the grub of the boll weevil."

31. In the case of experiments involving questions of the character of those presented above, final conclusions may not be drawn as the result of one or even several tests. Variations in seasons and other conditions often produce results one year not verifiable the next.

32. Two plots of Sea Island cotton were planted on 31st May, 1906, from fresh seed purchased from the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies.

Plot No. 1. A small area 97 square yards in black soil (provision land) in the school garden.

Plot No. 2. 1-16th of an acre in red or peppery soil, close to the tobacco curing house.

The first picking commenced on 25th October and continued to 3rd December, when the plants were cut down to test the quality of cotton from the second crop.

33. During the growth, which was fairly luxuriant, the plants were not attacked by any insect or other pests, and the condition of the plants was all that could be desired.

34. The total weight of seed cotton reaped from plot No. 2 was 29½ lbs., equal to 472 lbs. per acre.

35. Samples of the cotton were sent to the British Cotton Growing Association, Manchester, England, for their opinion as to quality and value. The following reply was received: "Your letter of 21st November duly to hand, together with the samples of Sea Island cotton grown at your experiment station. I have now pleasure in handing you copy of valuation and report from our expert in Liverpool.

"No. 1. Value 23d. to 24d. per lb. 'Clean, very bright, staple extra fine and long.'

"No. 2. Value 22d. per lb. 'Wanting in fineness, as compared with No. 1, also less fine and lacking in strength.'

"Just now Sea Island cotton is fetching very high prices, owing to the partial failure of the American Sea Island crop. There is no doubt that if you introduce this industry in your islands it will prove a great success."

36. *Mangrove Bark*.—In my report on the Out Islands for 1905, mention was made of the great abundance of mangrove bark growing in the numerous creeks throughout the islands. In order to try and find a market for this commodity, samples of the bark were submitted to English and American leather experts, to report as to the quality for tanning purposes.

The following reports were received:

Leather Industries Department, The University, Leeds, England.

"The bark is of fair strength, though the East Indian mangrove not infrequently runs up to over 40 per cent. of tanning matter, as determined by the hide-powder method; but it is extremely red in colour, which takes off very much from its commercial value. This is shown both by the tanned sample of leather and by the tintometer colour test. I do not think that the bark would pay for importing into this country, though it may no doubt be a useful tanning material on the spot."

From Professor H. R. Proctor, Leather Industries Laboratories, The Yorkshire College, Leeds, England.

"I beg to inform you that the following are the results of analysis of your sample of bark worked. Mangrove from Bahamas, according to the method of the International Association of Leather Modes Chemists.

	Per cent.
Tanning matters absorbed by hide...	25.0
Soluble non-tanning matters	11.2
Insoluble in cold water	51.2
Water ...	12.6
	100.0

Tintometer colour-measurement of solution containing 0.5 per cent. of tanning matter in 1 c.m. cell. Sample tanned in 1 per cent. solution of tanning matter.

Red, 20.5. Yellow, 23.7. Black."

From Ed. Maurer, Esq., New York. "Your favour of 24th January, received also samples of mangrove bark, which I have submitted to some experts here. I learn, however, that the American tanners do not like the mangrove bark, as it contains matters, outside of tannin, which injure the leather, and consequently the bark has not got a foothold here."

37. Large quantities of mangrove are shipped to Germany from East Africa, where the tanners seem to use it. A sample of the bark was sent to Germany, where it was valued 10s. per 100 kilos, but the freight from here would be quite an item on the material.

38. *Onions*.—An experiment in growing Bermuda onions to test the yield per acre under up-to-date methods of cultivation was carried out at this station. Seed imported from Teneriffe was sown in prepared beds on the 8th of September, 1905.

1.40th acre plot was prepared and planted on the 19th October, 1905, in rows three inches apart and nine inches between the rows. The crop was lifted for drying and curing on the 5th April, 1906, when they weighed 944 lbs., or 16 tons 17 cwt. 16 lbs. per acre. After being dried for 12 days and cleaned, they weighed 852 lbs., or 15 tons 4 cwt. 32 lbs. per acre—a loss in weight in the drying process of 92 lbs., 3,680 lbs. per acre. Take the crop at the ordinary wholesale selling price of 2d. per lb. The 852 lbs. are worth £7 2s., or £284 per acre.

39. *Pimento or Allspice*.—In order to test the quality of the pimento grown in this Island, ten quarts of berries were gathered and cured, a sample of which was sent to Messrs. Gillespie, Bros. & Co., New York, for their opinion and value. They report as follow:—"We were very much interested to see this pimento and to hear that you find it grows well in Nassau. In the sample you sent us there is too large a proportion of soft black berries, and if this pimento had been delivered against contract a considerable allowance would have had to be made in consequence. The blacks which are the ripe berries, clog the grinding machines, and in consequence are considered very undesirable by the manufacturers. The size of the pimento is very good, but the colour would be liked better was a certain greenish tinge absent. The Jamaica pimento, as you know, varies from a red to a dark brown, and the bright red is preferred here. The flavour of your pimento is good, and we should say that the berries contained a large quantity of oil. The value without the blacks is fully up to Jamaica pimento, and we think there would be no difficulty in obtaining the same price."

40. With regard to encouraging this industry, while it would pay to pick the berries from the trees now growing, I would not recommend a great extension of the industry. An average crop in Jamaica is a good deal larger than required by the present consumption, and I do not think there is much chance of any increase in the demand.

41. *Pine-apples*.—Six plots of pine-apples each 1-112th of an acre were planted with slips and suckers in October, 1905, to test the results of different manurial experiments.

Plot No. 1.	1 lb. Sulphate of ammonia.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of potash 90 per cent.
	2½ lb. Fish guano.
	1½ lb. Precipitated phosphate.
	1½ lb. Magnesia carbonate.
Plot No. 2.	1½ lb. Sulphate of lime.
	1½ lb. Precipitated phosphate.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of potash 90 per cent.
	1½ lb. Magnesia carbonate.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of lime.
Plot No. 3.	1 lb. Sulphate of ammonia
	2 lb. Fish guano.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of potash 90 per cent.
	1½ lb. Magnesia carbonate.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of lime.
Plot No. 4.	1 lb. Sulphate of ammonia.
	2 lb. Fish guano.
	1½ lb. Precipitated phosphate.
	1½ lb. Magnesia carbonate.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of lime.
Plot No. 5.	1½ lb. Sulphate of ammonia.
	2 lb. Fish guano.
	1½ lb. Precipitated phosphate.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of potash 90 per cent.
	1½ lb. Sulphate of lime.
Plot No. 6.	1 lb. Sulphate of ammonia.
	2½ lb. Fish guano.
	1½ lb. Precipitated phosphate
	1½ lb. Sulphate of potash 90 per cent.
	1½ lb. Magnesia carbonate.

These manures were applied in one dressing on 1st February, 1906.

42. The plants in plots numbers 1, 3, 5 grew rapidly and luxuriantly. The plants in plots numbers 2, 4 and 6 were strong, but unhealthy. Unfortunately the storm on the night of the 27th May, 1906, practically destroyed the pine plants, owing to water covering them to a depth of two feet for nearly two days.

43. A further series of six manurial plots are arranged on higher ground, and were planted on the 6th September, 1906, from slips presented by Jerome Pyfrom, Esq., of Governor's Harbour.

44. A collection of pine-apples is being made. The following varieties received from G. L. Lucas, Esq., Jamaica, were planted :

Green Ripley, Red Ripley, Sugar loaf, Red Spanish, Cheese pine, and Abbaka.

45. *Potatoes, Sweet*.—Fourteen varieties of sweet potatoes were planted on 23rd February, 1906, on hills three feet apart, three cuttings being planted on each hill. Five of the varieties were received from the Botanical Department, Jamaica, the other nine varieties were purchased from local growers.

46. These were reaped and weighed on 23rd July, 1906, with the following results :—

1. Mufford (Jamaica)	...	12,100 lbs. per acre.
2. Vincintonians (Jamaica)	...	9,680 lbs. per acre.
3. White Mary (local)	...	9,580 lbs. per acre.
4. Yellow (local)	...	9,540 lbs. per acre.
5. Bain Crust (local)	...	9,480 lbs. per acre.
6. Fowl (local)	...	7,260 lbs. per acre.
7. Simvoth (local)	...	7,260 lbs. per acre.
8. Six Weeks (local)	...	7,260 lbs. per acre.
9. Trinidad No. 1 (Jamaica)	...	7,260 lbs. per acre.
10. Governor No. 1 (Jamaica)	...	7,260 lbs. per acre.

11. Brass Cannon (Jamaica)	...	7,180 lbs. per acre.
12. Pumpkin (local) ...	...	4,840 lbs. per acre.
13. Solomon (local) ...	...	3,630 lbs. per acre.
14. Rocky Hill (local) ...	...	1,210 lbs. per acre.

47. A glance at the above figures shows which are the best varieties for planting. Two of the Jamaican varieties are worthy of note, *e.g.*, Mufford and Vincintonians. White Mary and Bain Crust (local varieties) deserve notice. Unfortunately Rocky Hill, a local variety which is perhaps the best culinary variety, does not give a large yield.

The above trial was made on poor stony land, and no fertilizers or manures were applied.

48 *Rubber*.—Experiments were made in tapping the rubber vine (*Cryptostegia Grandiflora*) and in the preparation of rubber, during the months of March, April, and October, 1906.

The method of tapping adopted was that in which the vines are bled by making V-shaped incisions at intervals on the stem and branches, and collecting the milk or latex in tin vessels attached under each incision.

49. A sample of prepared rubber was submitted to a rubber expert in New York for report and value. The sample was valued at 4s. per lb., and the rubber was said to be of a very fine quality. For a detailed report on the new industry, see "Bulletins" for July and September, 1906.

50. I hope during the year to make experimental trials of the yield by cutting down the young shoots almost to the ground, then crushing the stems between rollers. Recent microscopical examination of the bark shows that the milky juice "latex" is contained in the pith of the young shoots, and in the middle layer of the bark, in a network of minute tubes known as laticiferous vessels. These vessels run for the most part longitudinally in the plant tissues, forming a closed and connected system.

51. I am positive it is well worth the while of all large proprietors to interest themselves in the rubber vine industry. It proves itself to be hardy and easily cultivated; it can be handled with ease and grows rapidly, produces a first class rubber, second only when well prepared to the best Para rubber.

52. It is quite possible that we may yet see successful plantations of Ceara rubber trees established in the Bahamas, and under conditions that may afford a sufficient yield of rubber to render the enterprise remunerative.

53. *Tobacco*.—As stated in my annual report on the experiment station for 1905, a quarter acre plot was prepared and planted with cigar leaf tobacco from Havana seed received from the Botanical Department, Jamaica.

54. The seed was sown in a prepared bed on the 1st September, 1905, germinated on the 11th September; the first plants were planted out on the 9th November, 1905, 66 days from date of sowing. The plants were moulded from the 1st December. The first ripe plants were cut on the 19th January, 1906, 71 days from date of planting, and 137 days from date of sowing; the last cutting of ratoons was cut on the 12th April. For further particulars of the experiment see "Bulletins" for July and October.

55. The actual yield of cured tobacco from $\frac{1}{4}$ acre was 195 lbs. carpa, wrapper or binder, 111 lbs. tripa, filler, and 1 lb. fonque, or 1,228 lbs. per acre.

56. The expenditure for labour in cultivation was £1 16s. 9d., in curing, stripping and classing £2 3s. 9d., or at the rate of £17 17s. per acre. I must point out that this cost is high, because it was an educational as well as an experimental process.

57. Samples of the cured tobacco were submitted to the local cigar manufacturers, F. V. Chalmers, Esq., tobacco expert, to the Colonial Office, London, Board of Agriculture, London, Professor W. R. Dunstan, Imperial Institute, London, and to experts in America.

58. Reports to hand are satisfactory and encouraging. Mr. J. L. Saunders says, "I must state that after I manufactured the tobacco into cigars, I found that the aroma was something exquisite as regards to flavour. I have no doubt as to the great success of the cultivation of this tobacco, and I venture to say that the leaves are equally as large and the quality as good as that I generally import from Havana, Cuba."

Mr. Chalmers says, "Your types of Havana seed grown tobacco have had my most careful attention. I have also read your report in 'Bulletin' with much interest. I think the cost of production very low and well worth the doing if only for local purposes. For the first experiment I consider you successful, but I feel it impossible to do the tobacco justice in its present condition; it is too strong, it is not sufficiently aged, and I think you would do well to try the lighter soil."

Messrs. Gillespie Bros. & Co., New York, report: "We have placed the samples of tobacco before a Cuban expert, who is engaged in the manufacture of cigars in New York. He rolled a cigar from the sample, and smoked it, and reported that of all the tobacco grown from Havana seed that had come under his notice this sample approached most nearly the flavour of the real Havana grown leaf. Besides this, what pleased him most was that when blended with the Havana leaf it did not spoil the flavour. The veins and texture of the leaf are coarser than Havana, but with further cultivation this will no doubt improve."

For further reports see 'Bulletins' for July, 1906, and January, 1907. Reports from the Board of Agriculture, London, and the Imperial Institute, London, not yet to hand.

59. The experiment clearly proves that tobacco can be grown and cured in the Bahamas, giving a large percentage of fine leaves of a condition suitable for cigar wrappers. The texture, aroma, colour of the leaf, and burning quality are good.

60. 250 lbs. of the tobacco were exposed for sale by public auction in Nassau in September, 1906; the average price realised was 1s. 5d. per lb., which would give £86 19s. 8d. per acre. The sale was well attended, and the bidding quite spirited. The quality of the tobacco was very favourably commented upon, and representatives of the principal cigar manufactories seemed eager to secure the several lots.

This sale has demonstrated the fact that tobacco of a good quality can be sold at very remunerative prices.

61. *Nursery*.—The nursery has been stocked with economic and ornamental plants for distribution to the Out-Islands, such as Para rubber, Ceara rubber, Castilleja rubber (from seed purchased in Ceylon), British Honduras mahogany (from seed presented from the Botanical Department, British Honduras), Bahamas rubber vine, native mahogany, crotons, acalphas, &c.

62. *Roads*.—547 yards of carriage drives were made by the aid of prison labour, with stones taken off the station. Unfortunately the work of continuing main carriage drive from the Curator's office to Shirley Street has been delayed owing to the withdrawal of prison labour.

63. *Publications*.—4,800 Bulletins of the Department of Agriculture were printed and distributed principally to the Out-Islands, at a cost of over £40. In the volume for 1906 the following articles appear: Cotton Cultivation, Cotton Experiments, Diseases and Pests attacking Cotton, Cassava Cultivation, Cassava Experiments, Citrus Culture, Onion Cultivation, Tobacco Experiments, Rubber Cultivation, Rubber Experiments, Indian Corn Cultivation and Experiments, Kaffir Corn, Notes, with plan of school garden suitable for the Out-Island schools, Diseases of Plants, Insect Pests, Tropical Fruits, including pine-apples, grape-fruit, oranges, mangoes, Avocado pears, sapodillas, &c., Agricultural Exhibitions, Okra Cultivation, Sweet Potato, Experiments, &c.

64. The thanks of the Board of Agriculture are due to the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies, for the West Indian "Bulletin," Agricultural News, pamphlets and reports of the experiment,

stations, &c. The Director of Public Gardens and Plantations, Jamaica, for the "Bulletins" of the Agricultural Department. The Secretary, Department of Agriculture, United States, America, "Bulletins" and reports of experiment stations. The Secretary of Agriculture, do Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil, "Bulletins" Department of Agriculture.

65. *Plants and Seeds*.—The thanks of the Board of Agriculture are due to the following contributors of plants and seeds for the experiment station.

Local :

His Excellency the Governor.
Jerome Pyfrom, Esq.
R. S. Johnstone, Esq.

Foreign :

Botanical Department, Jamaica.
Botanical Department, British Honduras.
Sub-tropical Laboratory, Miami.
D. Edwards-Radcliffe, England.
R. M. Green, Esq., British Vice-Consul, Taxpum, Mexico.
R. Tynes Smith, Esq., Rowland Park, Baltimore, U.S.A.
George L. Lucas, Esq., Jamaica.

66. *Distribution of Plants and Seeds*.—The following plants and seeds were distributed free. I have great pleasure in acknowledging the ready and valuable assistance rendered me in the distribution of plants to the Out-Islands by the captains of the mail schooners :—

Tomato plants	...	...	...	...	...	14,973
Onion plants...	...	...	...	...	...	2,200
Tobacco plants	...	...	...	...	...	6,400
Rubber plants	...	...	...	...	...	50
Sweet potato cuttings	...	...	...	...	...	3,685
Mahogany trees	...	...	...	...	...	1,170
Ornamental plants	...	...	...	...	...	980
Seed : Guinea corn, Kaffir corn, Sea Island cotton, tobacco and tomato.						

67. *Visitors*.—His Excellency Sir William Grey-Wilson visited the station at intervals during the year. We also had the pleasure of seeing numerous visitors from the United States, South America, Canada, and from the Out-Islands, Resident Justices, Assistant Resident Justices, and many of the larger cultivators, who spent some time in the station, studying our work, or the experiments and collections of economic plants.

68. I have been away from Headquarters 67 days during the period under review, visiting the Out-Islands and local plantations. Mr. Leonard Jarvis who was appointed from the Hope Experiment Station, Jamaica, as foreman in November, 1905, carried on the work at the experiment station in my absence, and has done very good work throughout the year, materially assisting me in my duties.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATIONAL WORK.

69. From the 6th to the 24th August, 1906, lectures and practical demonstrations on agricultural crops were given by me at the Experiment Station, to 16 teachers in charge of schools in the Out-Islands, also seven lectures (during the course) on agricultural subjects were given in the evenings at the Queen's College, from 8 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., and were opened by the Hon. Anton Bertram, late Attorney General, who gave an able address to the teachers.

The evening lectures were open to the public. Marked interest was taken in the work, the examination papers submitted at the close of the course being in many cases particularly good. The conduct of the teachers was most satisfactory. The teachers left with the expressed determination to put into practice what they had been taught, and it is expected that the course of

lectures will afford useful object lessons in the schools, and also materially extend up-to-date methods of cultivation in the Out-Islands.

A report on the course was sent to the Board of Education.

I have great pleasure in acknowledging the ready assistance rendered by W. C. B. Johnson, Esq., in conveying the teachers to and from the Experiment Station.

It is evident that facilities should be provided for Agricultural instruction to the school teachers in the Out-Islands, and for that purpose an addition should be made to the present grant to the Board of Education, and that the system of school gardens attached to schools be encouraged as much as possible and on practical lines.

In all Out-Island schools agricultural teaching should be made a compulsory subject.

AGRICULTURE.

70. The figures of the total value of agricultural exports by the Colony for the financial year ending 31st March, 1906, as published by the Blue Book are £75,952.

71. Among the products exported sisal fibre is by far the most important, the total value of shipments being £37,522. Pine-apples come next with £31,489, then grape-fruit and oranges with £3,785.

72. Among exports pine-apples show a falling-off by £4,160, while sisal fibre increased by £7,965, grape-fruit and oranges by £1,023. During the months that have already elapsed of the current financial year, the exports in agriculture have reached a sum considerably in excess of the preceding year, which tends to prove the vitality of the Islands and their steady development.

73. A very considerable portion of the Out-Islands is admirably suited for cattle raising, and practical steps will be placed before the Board of Agriculture to foster this enterprise, with a view to placing the industry on a broader and more productive basis.

74. A great factor in the present smallness of agricultural exports from the Colony is due to cultivators not being able to develop their property for this purpose; there is felt the need of Agricultural Banks, lending money at a moderate rate of interest.

75. That practical steps be taken by the Board of Agriculture to promote all forms of agricultural co-operation, and especially to encourage the formation of Agricultural Societies in the Out-Islands, by means of loans, on approved security of a central co-operative agricultural credit association, and if thought advisable the Central Association might also dispose of the crops at a moderate commission.

76. To increase the cultivation of such industries as sisal by small cultivators, a substantial sum should be placed by Government at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture for the purpose of acquiring land for creating small holdings throughout the Out-Islands. Terms as to loans to small holders to be such as will secure that poverty be no bar to suitable men acquiring ownership of the land they till. I am convinced that, if this policy were wisely and earnestly carried out, the evil of depopulation would be stayed and the tide of immigration to other countries be even turned back in an opposite direction, and the valuable class of peasant proprietors would steadily increase in number until it became not only an important factor in the economy of the Colony, but also an addition to labour on large estates.

77. During the year there was organised in Nassau a new limited company (The Bahamas Fibre and Produce Company, Limited) with a capital of £15,000. In addition to the cultivation of sisal, cassava will be largely taken up, 25 acres are already planted. Tobacco, rubber, and other industries will also be taken up.

78. A fruit and vegetable shipping company (The Harbour Island Fruit and Vegetable Shipping Company, Limited) was organised during the year

at Harbour Island, with the capital of £100. The objects of the company are: To develop the culture of all fruits, vegetables, and other products in the district: to purchase, pack and export all fruits, vegetables and products; to endeavour to find markets for the disposal of all such fruits, vegetables and products.

79. No feature of the recent growth of the Island of New Providence is of greater significance than the astonishing development in pine-apples. The growth of this cultivation is so phenomenal that this Island bids fair to become the most important pine-apple centre in the Bahamas. For the single year 1906, 62½ acres were set out. The J. S. Johnson Company are re-arranging and making substantial additions to their canning factory in Nassau, which will enable them to cope with the increased cultivation of this fruit. This factory will now be one of the largest, if not the largest, in the West Indies.

In 1905 this firm purchased 162,118 6-12 dozen pine-apples for canning purposes; in 1906 they purchased 242,242 7-12 dozen, an increase of 80,000 dozen over 1905. The only other canning factory working in the Bahamas is situated at Governor's Harbour, and owned by Messrs. Alonzo and Abner Griffin, who used in 1905 80,000 dozen pine-apples for canning purposes. In 1906 they purchased 124,000 dozen, an increase of 44,000 dozen over 1905.

80. The prospects of sisal are most encouraging; sisal cultivation is steadily increasing, 25,000 acres being now under this cultivation. The fibre produced is of good quality and strength, although there are still complaints about short and badly-cleaned fibre. As much as 6 cents per lb. has been obtained during the greater part of the year for hand-cleaned fibre, while 8 and 9 cents are common figures for machine-cleaned.

81. The exports for the financial year 1904-05 were 2,218,825 lbs., valued at £29,557. For 1905-06, 3,040,045 lbs., valued at £37,522, an increase of 831,220 lbs., valued at £7,965. I estimate the quantity of hand-cleaned fibre exported during 1905-06 at 2,016,001 lbs., and machine-cleaned at 1,024,044 lbs.

82. The increase of fibre is noticeable in all the Out Islands, more especially Long Island, Cat Island, and Exuma.

83. Small cultivators will do well to extend the growth of this valuable industry, which requires no special attention. But they would confer a greater benefit on themselves and on the Colony if more attention was paid to cutting only mature leaf, and to the cleaning of the fibre, the quality of hand-cleaned fibre being somewhat varied, in most cases due to bad cleaning.

84. The subsequent advance in planting sisal will be much more rapid, but in no reasonable view of the circumstances can the export of the Colony (if only first class cleaned fibre be shipped) have a marked effect on the fibre markets for many years to come. It would be difficult to assign a limit to the future advance of the Colony from the growth of sisal fibre.

85. A factor of great importance in connection with the sisal industry is the absence of large fluctuations in the price of the fibre, and the remote probability of there being a serious fall in prices, as the demand for good fibre is almost unlimited.

86. The plantations already established by small cultivators in the Out-Islands are now arriving at such a stage that a successful hand-cleaning fibre machine is a matter of the greatest importance.

87. The pine-apple industry, which takes a leading part among the products of the Colony, is progressing satisfactorily, and the more remunerative prices received during the year will undoubtedly give fresh impetus to the industry. The quantity procured during 1906 was superior to that of 1905, and if anything the prospects for 1907 seem to be encouraging. The fields are in excellent condition, owing to the rainfall in October last. The young fields are also doing well. An article on pine-apples was published in the September "Bulletin," including soil, propagation, planting, fertilizing, and lines of improvement in selection of stock and planting.

88. As mentioned in my last annual report, the crop of grape-fruit and oranges for 1905-06 was fairly good, as shown by the exports, which amounted to £3,785. This year the crop of grape-fruit is short, and a falling off in the export may be expected for this year.

89. While the question of the successful growing of citrus fruit in this Colony may be doubted by some, there is no doubt in the mind of the writer that this Colony could produce as fine fruit as any other competing country, provided the right varieties, right cultivation, and right fertilising to meet the different conditions of soil are dealt with. Our citrus industry lacks the care in handling and shipping which it receives in other fruit-producing centres, and until inspection of shipments is introduced in this Colony, the industry will never succeed.

90. More attention has been paid to cotton cultivation, but I regret that I am unable to report any great success with this industry. Six hundred pounds of seed cotton were shipped from Long Island to the British Cotton Growing Association. The fear of the cotton bug or stainer prevents a large number of cultivators from taking up cotton cultivation in Long Island and Exuma. In fact, in all the cotton-growing districts this fear alone was the cause of the abandonment of the industry.

91. A special "Bulletin" on the cotton industry was published in August, 1906, and distributed free to the cotton-growing districts in the Out-Islands, which contained full information on soil, planting, cultivation, picking, ginning, baling, and manuring, also valuable information reprinted from the "Bulletin," Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies, on cotton bugs or stainers, their life history, food plants, damage to cotton, and remedies for their extermination.

92. Arrangements are being made for cotton experiments in the principal Out-Islands; and bounties to cultivators with an acre or more of Sea Island cotton. There being a ready sale in England at good prices, should encourage cultivators to go in for this industry.

A Resident Justice writes: "The cotton industry does not thrive; cannot persuade the people to try it. The fact is, its culture requires of the planter qualifications the average man does not possess. We shall have to wait until the people are better trained along agricultural lines. The farmer needs more skill and energy, and these can only be supplied by training the rising generation."

93. Large numbers of sheep and lambs are fattened up and sent to the Nassau market, where there is always a ready sale for fat animals at good prices. In this way a profitable business has been done during the year, principally from Long Island, Hog Cay, and Little Exuma.

94. Our increasing tourist trade will furnish additional markets for our beef and mutton, which we cannot supply (I hold we can, if we set ourselves to it), therefore more live stock may be kept, and should be kept by general cultivators; for live stock kept in conjunction with mixed cultivations is the basis of good farming here as elsewhere.

95. A good demand was experienced for cocoanuts during the year, the Florida Refining Co. of Jacksonville buying all they could procure. The quantity shipped during the year was 195,000, besides 30,000 in stock ready for shipment. The waste land on the sea coast of the Islands is specially suitable for cocoanut plantations, the roots thriving in the salt soil. The demand for these is great, and is an increasing one, the only requisite for their cultivation being that the young trees for the first two or three years be kept out of the direct rays of the sun, after which time they can be left to take care of themselves.

96. In other branches of Agriculture, such as cassava, rubber, bananas, corn, onions, and minor industries, steady progress is being made, and promising efforts are being made to promote new industries.

97. The Board of Agriculture imported 105 lbs. of Bermuda onion seed from Teneriffe which was distributed in the Out-Islands. Latest reports show that a large acreage is under this crop, and with a favourable season, a large export may be expected.

OUT-ISLANDS.

98. *Long Island*.—During 1906 Long Island continued to fully maintain the position of eminence it has always held among the Out-Islands. The able Resident Justice transferred there has further contributed to the realisation of its natural potentialities.

The actual amount of Sea Island cotton shipped is not great, but it is enough to demonstrate what may be done in the near future.

The general tendency to diversify products is probably the most important feature of the trade situation of Long Island. The exports of agricultural produce in 1906, according to the returns of the Resident Justice, amounted to £13,715.

The cultivation of sisal has developed greatly of late years, and especially during 1905 and 1906. The industry is very prosperous, and prices have not varied much during the year. 295 tons of fibre were exported during the year at a value of £6,000.

The pine-apple industry is reviving and likely to increase. 80,000 dozen were exported valued at £5,000.

The onion industry is developing, and 30 lbs. of such were planted. It is expected that upwards of 600 bushels will be shipped during the months of March and April.

The corn crop is one of the smallest known for many years, and is due to the abnormally dry weather which prevailed just at the time when the crop required rain. Altogether, throughout the year the rainfall was so fitful and scanty that a short crop was only the natural result.

99. Long Island probably is the worst island in the whole group as regards roads.

The road leading from Clarence Town, the principal settlement, to the north end is in many places in a deplorable condition. This is to be regretted, as the development of this island (one of our best agricultural islands) depends on the construction of suitable roads for wheel traffic.

The principal cultivators at Clarence Town are already using carts for the conveyance of their products.

Special attention might be drawn to the fact that agricultural products to the value of over £11,000 were exported to foreign markets during 1906, and with suitable roads this amount will increase.

100. *Eleuthera*.—A considerable increase is noted in the quantity of agricultural products exported in 1906.

The most valuable export trade is that represented by pine-apples.

One of the most promising of recent introductions is the growing of bananas at Gregory Town. There are areas of suitable land close to the settlement, and these are certain to be taken up in the near future. The production is principally consumed in Na-sau, the shipments made to the United States realised good prices satisfactory to the growers.

There is great opportunity for the growth of this fruit in Eleuthera as well as in other islands, and the demand is always steady; the industry should be made a very profitable one if the business were taken up with more energy.

The pine-apple fields throughout the Island look well; the most productive and important centres are Rock Sound, Governor's Harbour, and Hatchet Bay.

The cultivators of Tarpum Bay are extending their cultivations at Rock Sound, and Port Howe, district of San Salvador.

Additional canning factories are needed for this industry, one situated at Tarpum Bay would be central for Rock Sound and San Salvador.

More care is necessary in handling the fruit, even if only shipped to Nassau. Much interest is being taken in the formation of an American Company to export grape fruit and oranges from the Current, Bogue, and Bluff. The growers have already signed a ten years' contract to supply fruit at a fixed price. The general prosperity of the Island continues.

101. *Harbour Island*.—The principal items of export are the various vegetable products of the settlement.

There is abundance of uncultivated land well adapted to vegetable growing, but it lies unused and only requires energy to yield handsome returns. There are lots of vegetables cultivated, but they are almost altogether for domestic use. Harbour Island might do much in this line, much more than is being done at present, if the business were taken up with energy.

The onion industry which had the appearance of a good return, has of late suffered from drought and high winds. Much interest is being taken in the new limited company to export the agricultural produce of the Island to foreign markets.

102. *Exuma*.—The year 1906 was an exceedingly prosperous one for Exuma. The exports in agricultural products for 1905 were valued at £1,753 18s., in 1906 they amounted to £3,343 19s. 10d., an increase of £1,590 1s. 10d.

The chief agricultural products considerably increased in volume and improved in quality.

Sisal continues to make steady progress, and promising efforts are being made to cultivate cotton.

Exuma is persistent in its policy of road making; how thoroughly this work is being carried out under the supervision of the Resident Justice is not generally known.

103. *Abaco*.—The general progress made in this Island in 1906 is so far satisfactory. Favourable prices ruling in America for Bermuda onions stimulated cultivators at Green Turtle Cay in this industry. Reports indicate that with favourable weather the returns will be satisfactory.

Sisal is the principal industry. Green Turtle Cay district exported 550,375 lbs. of sisal, valued at £5,159, and pine-apples to the value of £30.

104. *Bimini*.—From such information as is available, it is evident that in spite of the hurricane which passed over this Island on the 18th October, 1906, appreciable progress is being made.

105. *San Salvador*.—The population of this Island is largely engaged in agriculture; the chief products are pine-apples and sisal.

The value of the agricultural articles exported during the year from the Bight and districts under the Resident Justice were sisal £9,269, pine-apples £4,118, sweet potatoes £26.

The agricultural condition of the Island is fairly good. A large addition to the acreage of pine-apples and sisal took place during the year; the prospect for the winter harvest of crops is good.

106. *Andros*.—From such statistics as are available it is evident that Andros, in spite of the adverse conditions, made appreciable progress.

The sisal industry is a growing one. Among minor industries which are making satisfactory progress in the Island is that of cassava.

107. *Grand Bahama*.—While the profits from grape-fruit and oranges of late years have been comparatively small, the situation latterly seems to be improving, due in most part to economical methods of cultivation.

Great efforts were made by the Assistant Resident Justice to revive cotton cultivation, though the results obtained have not, perhaps, been as satisfactory as might be desired, yet the plantations have escaped the invasion of the bugs or cotton stainers.

GENERAL REMARKS.

108. The islands on the whole have benefited by the interest aroused by the Department of Agriculture, and there can be no doubt that more practical encouragement is being extended to proposals for developing the natural resources of the Colony.

109. The exports of the islands, though satisfactory, are still out of proportion to their resources, which offer a vast field for enterprise and the employment of capital.

WM. M. CUNNINGHAM,
Curator.

Botanic Station,
31st January, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"
513	Basutoland	1905-1906
514	British Guiana	"
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905-1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weibaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands... ..	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate... ..	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 575.

BAHAMAS.

REPORT FOR 1907-8.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 543.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
September, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1908.

[Cd. 3729-39.] *Price 3d.*

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No. 575.

BAHAMAS.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No 543)

THE GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE

Government House,
Nassau,

16th July, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1907-8, together with the Colonial Secretary's Report thereon.

2. A sketch map of the Colony is attached.

I have, &c.,

W. GREY WILSON,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, P.C.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1907-8.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The Revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1908, was £89,694, as compared with £79,058 in 1906-7, or £11,987 more than the average annual revenue of the preceding five years.

2. The following are the details :—

Heads of Revenue.	1906-7.	1907-8.	In-crease.	De-crease
	£	£	£	£
1. Customs	65,987	75,144	9,157	—
2. Port Dues, &c.	433	593	160	—
3. Licences and Internal Revenue...	4,606	3,734	—	872
4. Fees and Reimbursements	2,104	2,787	683	—
5. Post and Telegraphs	4,937	5,023	86	—
6. Rents	320	278	—	42
7. Widows and Orphans	111	107	—	4
8. Miscellaneous	5	29	24	—
9. Interest	553	1,071	518	—
10. Land Sales... ..	2	—	—	2
11. Excise Duty	—	10	10	—
12. Electric Light Fund	—	918	918	—
Totals	79,058	89,694	11,556	920

Net increase, £10,636.

The sale of Crown Lands is not included in this Return.

3. The expenditure amounted to £79,790 as against £71,087 in 1906-7 or an increase of £8,703, and was £6,771 more than the average annual expenditure of the preceding five years.

4. The following are the details :—

Service.	1906-7.	1907-8.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
1. Public Debt Charges	6,486	6,543	57	—
2. Pensions	3,791	3,460	—	331
3. House of Assembly	1,157	1,147	—	10
4. Legislative Council	66	124	58	—
5. Governor	1,360	1,226	—	134
6. Colonial Secretary	924	985	61	—
Carried forward	13,784	13,485	176	475

Expenditure—cont.

Service.	1906-7.	1907-8.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward...	13,784	13,485	176	475
7. Receiver General ...	3,057	3,049	—	8
8. Judicial ...	6,347	6,626	279	—
9. Registrar ...	558	559	1	—
10. Constabulary and Police...	5,649	5,802	153	—
11. Fire ...	587	408	—	179
12. Surveyor-General...	462	489	27	—
13. Audit ...	360	360	—	—
14. Post Office...	6,796	8,403	1,607	—
15. Telegraphs and Telephones	1,301	1,335	34	—
16. Ecclesiastical ...	115	—	—	115
17. Education ...	5,107	5,356	249	—
18. Public Libraries ...	455	454	—	1
19. Port and Marine ...	1,767	1,800	33	—
20. Medical ...	724	610	—	114
21. Charitable Institutions ...	7,130	8,393	1,263	—
22. Prisons ...	1,779	1,912	133	—
23. Public Works ...	11,619	16,740	5,121	—
24. Miscellaneous ...	2,535	2,081	—	504
25. Board of Agriculture ...	600	700	100	—
26. Marine Products Board ...	305	300	—	5
27. Electric Light Construction ...	—	47	47	—
28. " " Fund ...	—	777	777	—
Investment on account of surplus Fund.	—	104	104	—
Total ...	71,087	79,790	10,104	1,401

Net increase, £8,703.

5. The surplus for the year was £9,904, and the total surplus on the 31st March, 1908, amounted to £29,309 (exclusive of Hotel Fund, £10,593).

6. The following table gives the total revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue (+) or Expenditure (—).
	£	£	£
1903-4 ...	71,377	74,038	— 2,661
1904-5 ...	71,112	69,825	+ 1,287
1905-6 ...	77,294	70,256	+ 7,038
1906-7 ...	79,058	71,087	+ 7,971
1907-8 ...	89,694	79,790	+ 9,904

7. The cause of the large increase in customs receipts in 1907-8 is stated by the Receiver-General to be the larger importations and increased values of goods imported that are charged with an *ad valorem* duty.

8. The only other item of revenue that need be referred to is "licences, &c.," which shows a decrease of £872. This is merely nominal as under the Electric Light Act receipts from the House Property Tax in New Providence are now credited to the Electric Light Fund.

9. The increase in expenditure amounting to £8,703 is due mainly to Post Office, which shows an excess of £1,607 caused by part of a subsidy due in 1906-7 having been paid in 1907-8, by an increase of staff and larger expenditure on out-island mail subsidies; also to public works, which accounts for an increase of £5,121. The Colony, in view of its improved revenue, felt justified in carrying out more public works than usual both in New Providence and in the out-islands.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

10. The assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st March, 1908, are given in the following table:—

BAHAMAS, 1907-8.

7

Assets.			Liabilities.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in Colonial Chest	...	...	On Current Account—		
" at out-islands and in transit	...	...	Overdrawn on 31st March,		
" in hands of Crown Agents	...	...	1908 ..	262	9 4
" in transit to Crown Agents	...	...	Salaries	11	14 8
Surplus Funds invested	...	...	Pensions	481	7 4
Hotel Fund Investments	...	...	Miscellaneous ..	1,010	18 9
Cash lent at interest by Crown Agents	...	...		1,766	10 1
Savings Bank, Invested to 30th June, 1907,	...	...			
£31,790 16s. 2d., costing	30,930	12 2	Savings Bank—Due to depositors (including		
Income Tax	88	3 5	interest to 30th June, 1907)	29,749	18 2
Balance Cash—			Suspense account	4	0 0
In office	...	6 10 10	Deposits on account of labourers'		
In Bank	...	212 0 5	wages ..	319	0 6
			Excess of assets over liabilities	45,692	2 3
Cable Repair Fund—Invested, £7,150 7s. 9d.*	...	...			
Customs Bonds maturing	1,774	19 0			
Miscellaneous Advances	291	7 8			
Telephone Loan—Advance by Treasury under					
Law 22 of 1906	1,909	6 0			
Total	77,531	11 0	Total	77,531	11 0

* To this Fund Colony contributes £700 a year up to 1911 inclusive. In 1912 Government and Contractors divide whatever sum stands to credit of Fund.

PUBLIC DEBT.

11. The following is a statement of the Public Debt :—

Debts Outstanding.	To whom due.	Rate of Interest.	When incurred and for what cause.	Provisions for Payment of Interest or Sinking Fund and Encumbrances by which it is made.	Amount of Original Debt.	Amount Repaid or held for Repayment.	Remarks.
£ s. d. 22,386 4 0	Various persons in debentures of £100.	£4 10s per cent per annum paid half-yearly.	In 1885. The failure of the Nassau Public Bank.	Principal and Interest secured by 48 & 49 Vict., c. 2, which provides that so long as the sum of £1,925 shall be remitted from the General Revenue annually to Crown Agents who shall pay the interest and other charges, and (1) either invest the remainder by way of Sinking Fund, or (2) purchase debentures in the open market, or (3) reduce the debt by the annual drawing of 5 per cent of the debentures and the balance to be allowed.	£ s. d. 35,000 0 0	£ s. d. 12,613 16 0	Eight debentures of £100 each were drawn for repayment by the Crown Agents, the sum of £1,925 being deposited in the sinking fund place on 1st August, 1907. Bonds redeemed, £12,100; Cash with Crown Agents, £513 18s.; Total £12,613 18s.
27,455 18 6	Various persons in debentures of £100.	£4 per cent per annum paid quarterly.	In 1888. For redeeming outstanding debentures.	Revenue Debentures redeemable 35 years after date of issue. A Sinking Fund was established by 63 Vict., c. 7, to which a first contribution was made of £10,000 from Surplus Funds, and it is provided that £900 be annually added.	£ s. d. 48,128 0 2	20,670 1 8	Sinking Fund to 31st March, 1907, £20,670 1s. 8d.
16,838 4 2	Various persons in debentures of £100 and £500.	£4 per cent per annum paid quarterly.	January, 1892. Telegraph cable between Bahamas and Florida.	55 Vict., c. 1, charged on General Revenue. Debentures redeemable 30 years after date of issue, £630 per annum to be added to Sinking Fund.	£ s. d. 30,000 0 0	13,161 15 10	Sinking Fund to 31st March, 1907, £13,161 15s. 10d.
£66,680 6 8					£113,128 0 2	£46,445 13 8	

12. The following shows the excess of assets over liabilities for the past five years :—

	£	s.	d.
Excess of Assets on 31st March, 1904	15,448	0	3
“ “ “ “ 1905	16,570	5	11
“ “ “ “ 1906	27,092	0	2
“ “ “ “ 1907	35,140	15	1
“ “ “ “ 1908	45,692	2	3

Debt excluded.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

13. The imports during the year ended 31st December, 1907, are valued at £372,937 including £5,187 specie, as against £329,115 including £15,729 specie in 1906 and £308,544 including £16,591 in 1905.

The following table shows whence they came :—

Country.	Amount, 1906.	Amount, 1907.
	£	£
From the United Kingdom	63,050*	93,631†
“ the United States	250,288†	253,367§
“ Canada	3,050	8,385
“ British West Indies	5,316	10,237
“ Foreign Countries other than the United States.	7,411	7,317
Total	329,115	372,937

* Including £8,080 specie.

† Including £7,649 specie.*

‡ Including £2,020 specie.

§ Including £3,167 specie.

* By printer's error returned in Report for 1906-7, paragraph 10, at £2,591.

14. But inasmuch as certificates of origin are not required in this Colony these figures are not to be relied upon. There is no direct communication with the United Kingdom, and consequently many goods really imported from that country are classified as if imported from the United States where they are transhipped. It is only when merchants specially enter their goods as having been imported from the United Kingdom that they are so classified.

15. The values of the principal articles imported as compared with the previous year were :—

Articles.	Value 1906.	Value 1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
Alcoholic liquors—	£	£	£	£
Alcohol	20	93	73	—
Ale, cider, porter	2,493	2,320	—	173
Brandy	102	176	74	—
Gin	2,520	4,218	1,698	—
Rum	2,247	4,026	1,779	—
Whiskey	1,950	1,775	—	175
Wines	1,115	1,612	497	—
Automobiles	739	2,248	1,509	—
Bicycles	455	396	—	59
Butter and cheese	8,018	8,774	756	—
Cattle... ..	1,605	2,304	699	—
Coffee... ..	2,966	2,535	—	431
Corn, cornmeal, and hominy	7,824	15,979	8,155	—
Coal	1,317	2,608	1,291	—
Fertilisers	918	1,631	713	—
Flour	35,572	43,936	8,364	—
Gasoline	290	443	153	—
Hay, oats, and bran... ..	4,237	6,293	2,056	—
Horses	54	243	189	—
Ice	1,297	1,779	482	—
Lard	4,564	7,131	2,567	—
Lumber and shingles	}	8,949	2,834	—
Laths and mahogany				
Machinery	4,885	11,026	6,141	—
Meat, fresh	4,786	4,180	—	606
Meat, salt	11,116	13,223	2,107	—
Oil, kerosene	2,163	4,354	2,191	—
*Potatoes and onions	1,336	2,237	901	—
Rice	10,028	13,416	3,388	—
Rope and canvas	7,151	7,152	1	—
Soap	1,678	3,425	1,747	—
Sugars	14,350	12,916	—	1,434
Steam launches	—	857	857	—
Tea	1,049	797	—	252
Tobacco and cigars	4,313	6,380	2,067	—
Unenumerated—				
Earthenware, glassware, furniture.	58,159	38,512	—	19,647
Hardware, tinware	14,504	21,966	7,462	—
Preserved meat, fish	26,066	22,026	—	4,040
Textile fabrics	50,930	63,809	12,879	—
All other articles	14,454	22,005	7,551	—
	313,386	367,750	81,181	26,817
Specie... ..	15,729	5,187	—	10,542
Totals	329,115	372,937	43,822	—

* For "tomatoes" in Report for 1906-7, paragraph 11, should be read "potatoes."

16. The total exports for the year ended the 31st December, 1907, were valued at £238,232 (including £7,929 specie).

£226,819 represented the produce of the Colony. The figures in 1906 were £221,925 (including £9,459 specie) and £210,775.

17. The following table gives the export of the main articles of Colonial produce :—

Article.	Exports, 1906.		Exports, 1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Cotton Lbs.	13,105	£ 274	8,568	£ 234
Fruit :—				
Cocoanuts No.	297,850	710	316,250	955
Grape-fruit "	430,134	1,837	707,975	3,170
Oranges "	567,269	783	1,599,860	3,007
Pineapple, fresh ... Doz.	146,487	11,524	67,012	4,242
" preserved, Cases	117,196	19,090	68,349	13,579
Lumber, &c. :—				
Bark Lbs.	93,465	1,303	154,883	2,099
Hardwood Tons	475	732	677	1,485
Lumber Feet	1,162,121	5,498	875,926	4,693
Shingles No.	89,400	103	—	—
Salt Bshls.	96	2	7,745	85
Shells, conchs No.	708,465	1,669	152,222	1,928
" turtle Lbs.	8,720	9,600	9,942	13,100
Sisal "	3,867,034	40,140	4,306,082	46,669
Sponge "	1,528,802	115,528	1,660,677	129,699

18. Colonial produce was exported to the following countries :—

Country.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
United Kingdom ...	16,499	26,672
Canada	2,018	6,543
Jamaica	1,028	60
United States	126,381	125,760
Other Foreign Countries	64,795	67,784
Total ...	210,775	226,819

19. The increased value of the exports to the United Kingdom is accounted for by sponge the value of which was £5,471 more than in 1906, turtle shell £3,623, bark and hard-woods £338, and sisal (of which there was no export to England in 1906) £308.

20. The increase to Canada is due to increased exports of fruit to the extent of some £4,000, and sponge (of which there was no export to Canada in 1906) £1,638.

21. I subjoin a return of the value of imports and exports for the past five years —

Year.				Value of Imports.	Value of Exports.	Total.
				£	£	£
1903	...	...	...	294,590	210,493	505,083
1904	...	...	...	297,241	194,936	492,177
1905	...	...	...	308,544	222,905	531,449
1906	...	...	...	329,115	221,925	551,040
1907	...	...	...	372,937	238,232	611,169

(B.) MINES AND QUARRIES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

22. There are no mines. Limestone for building is found in most of the larger islands, valued at the quarry at 10*d.* per cubic foot.

Pineapple Canning Factories.

23. The export of preserved pineapples was 68,349 cases, as compared with 117,196 cases in 1906, valued at £13,579 and £19,090 respectively.

In 1907 the J. S. Johnson Company purchased 180,421 dozen pineapples for canning purposes as against 242,242 dozen in 1906, a decrease of 61,821 dozen. The Governor's Harbour factory also shows a decrease from the previous year.

The Curator reports that the decrease is owing to the damage done to the crops by the long drought during the latter end of 1906 and spring of 1907. The prospects for 1908 crops seem to be more encouraging.

The decrease in the pineapple industry has been discouraging though the causes of failure have been special rather than general and they should not be in any way a permanent deterrent.

•

Sisal Factories.

24. There were five factories in New Providence. The J. S. Johnson Company have two factories with two cleaning machines. 1,500 acres are planted, and the output was 105 tons.

The Bahamas Fibre and Produce Company have three factories and about 1,400 acres. One Todd and one Villamer machine are in use, and the output was about 80 tons.

At Little Abaco the Sisal Fibre Company has two cleaning machines; one Todd and one Terrorella machine are in use; about 5,000 acres are planted and thirteen miles of railroad laid. The output was 117 tons or 648 bales.

At Whale Cay, Berry Islands, there is one factory with one Todd cleaning machine and about 250 acres.

Messrs. R. H. Sawyer and Company have a factory at Abaco. At San Salvador there are two factories with three cleaning machines, which, however, were not in operation. These plantations are nearly exhausted.

There are two factories at Inagua, one only in operation.

Lumber Factories.

25. At the American Lumber Works at Wilson City, Abaco, a new mill is under construction which is calculated to saw 75,000 feet per diem. A number of fine houses have been built as well as one of the largest stores in the Bahamas.

The Company sawed 3,000,000 feet during 1907, and manufactured 350,000 shingles.

The Company has concessions at Andros and Grand Bahama also, but has not begun operations in these Islands.

The negotiations for the lease to another Company of a tract of land adjoining the Abaco estate referred to in my last report fell through.

Sponging, &c.

26. The Marine Products Board report that the regulations for the protection of the sponge beds in the Bight of Abaco and Hog Cay Channel, Exuma, have been successful.

Rules for the protection of conchs, fish, and turtle have been issued.

The sponge trade is depressed and the outlook discouraging.

A comparative Return of Sponge exported during the past five years is annexed :—

Comparative Return of Sponge Exported, 1903-1907.

Country to which exported.	1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
United Kingdom...	118,785	8,619	100,827	8,251	95,499	5,387	175,938	10,258	170,120	15,729
Canada	2,631	257	781	214	1,457	420	—	—	10,895	1,638
United States of America	963,397	58,890	790,652	53,287	864,658	60,548	783,386	45,296	910,603	50,415
France	72,289	8,553	88,957	10,345	100,715	11,956	140,253	21,161	122,358	20,180
Holland	161,605	11,892	128,359	9,902	158,488	14,519	111,074	12,372	111,637	13,140
Germany	169,145	13,991	292,659	23,235	254,494	20,096	307,173	26,206	320,968	28,198
Russia	27,774	2,192	5,723	484	10,441	666	1,113	94	—	—
Italy	—	—	—	—	4,396	125	9,863	140	14,036	399
Totals	1,515,626	104,394	1,407,958	105,718	1,490,148	113,753	1,528,800	115,527	1,660,677	129,699

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Sisal.

27. The most important industry is the raising of sisal fibre. The estimated area under cultivation is considerably over 25,000 acres. The output exceeds that of previous years and the acreage is increasing.

The Curator reports that a good demand was experienced for fibre from the beginning of the year up to the end of October and good prices were obtainable. At the end of October a financial crisis set in in America, with the result that prices for fibre fell away considerably ; at present the prices are about two cents per pound less than at the beginning of the year.

Complaints of the gathering of immature and of badly-cleaned fibre continue.

Grape-fruit.

28. 707,975 were exported as against 430,134 in 1906 and 564,061 in 1905, with values respectively of £3,670, £1,837, and £2,397.

Oranges.

29. The demand for grape-fruit and oranges has increased considerably and it has been put into new markets ; that should be a great help to the shippers in the future. 1,599,860 were exported, valued at £3,007.

A Canadian Fruit and Vegetable Company was organized last year. An establishment of this kind is bound to assist materially in restoring the reputation of the citrus fruits of the Colony. No local capital is engaged in the venture. The enterprise is financed by Canadian capitalists.

Cocoanuts.

30. A good demand was experienced for cocoanuts during the year ; 316,250 were exported at a value of £955. The demand for these is increasing. The Curator reports that the crop is reasonably certain in many districts of the Colony, and it would seem that the growing of cocoanuts is a profitable industry.

31. Comparative Returns of Exports of Sisal, Pineapples (fresh and preserved), Grape-fruit, Oranges, and Cocoanuts for the past five years are annexed:—

Comparative Return of Sisal Exported, 1903-1907.

Country to which exported.	1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
United Kingdom ...	25,374	396	—	—	131,895	1,025	—	—	26,598	308
United States ...	3,197,385	38,409	2,218,825	23,557	2,903,950	35,897	3,722,733	38,702	4,279,484	46,361
Canada ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	144,301	1,438	—	—
Totals ...	3,222,759	38,805	2,218,825	29,557	3,040,845	37,522	3,867,034	40,140	4,306,082	46,669

Comparative Return of Pineapples (Fresh) Exported, 1903-1907.

	1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Dozen.	Value.	Dozen.	Value.	Dozen.	Value.	Dozen.	Value.	Dozen.	Value.
	Dozen.	£	Dozen.	£	Dozen.	£	Dozen.	£	Dozen.	£
United States ...	475,672	34,272	228,008	22,616	197,324	19,759	146,487	11,524	67,012	4,242
Canada ...	6,021	199	—	—	72	7	—	—	—	—
France ...	—	—	—	—	150	10	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	481,693	34,471	228,608	22,616	197,546	19,776	146,487	11,524	67,012	4,242

Comparative Return of Pineapples (Preserved) Exported, 1903-1907.

	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.	No. of cases.
United States	22,242	5,778	62,900	12,580	58,499	10,640	116,010	18,736	61,984
Canada	6,600	1,804	6	2	6,032	1,058	1,186	354	6,365
United Kingdom	—	—	2,178	436	25	5	—	—	—
Germany	—	—	75	15	—	—	—	—	—
France	—	—	—	—	50	10	—	—	—
Totals	28,842	7,582	65,159	13,033	64,506	11,713	117,196	19,090	68,349

Comparative Return of Grape-fruit Exported, 1903-1907.

	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
United Kingdom	—	—	—	—	10,000	46	7,500	31	938
Canada	—	—	—	—	56,588	192	6,988	58	293,800
United States	357,308	1,992	231,096	1,374	467,473	2,159	415,646	1,748	413,237
Totals	357,308	1,992	231,096	1,374	534,061	2,397	430,134	1,837	707,975

Comparative Return of Oranges Exported, 1903-1907.

	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
United Kingdom	—	—	—	—	4,500	5	—	—	3,000
Canada	—	—	—	—	1,086,000	887	82,000	148	1,089,400
United States	699,712	922	272,955	338	615,818	496	486,269	635	507,460
Totals	699,712	922	272,955	338	1,706,318	1,398	567,269	783	1,599,860

Comparative Return of Cocoanuts Exported, 1903-1907.

	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
United States	3,000	12	1,380	6	15,950	34	297,850	710	316,250
Totals	3,000	12	1,380	6	15,950	34	297,850	710	316,250

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B

Botanic Station.

32. It is shown by the Curator's report that considerable progress has been made and satisfactory work done at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Nassau. The report is very full and contains many points of interest. The experiments with Sea Island cotton in the plots at the station and in the out-islands are of great interest and value. A number of small farmers are reported to have taken up the industry.

Agricultural efforts have been stimulated by the holding in Nassau of an Agricultural Exhibition for the out-islands, bringing together in competition the principal commercial and food products of the Colony.

By an Act passed during the recent session of the House of Assembly the grant to the Board of Agriculture has been increased from £600 to £1,000 a year.

(D.) LAND GRANTS.

33. The total number of acres granted is put at 368,773, and the total remaining ungranted at 1,766,777. The total number of acres of Crown land sold in 1907 was 646 as against 167 in 1906.

Squatting is prevalent.

Many lands granted two or three years ago remain unsurveyed on account of want of staff.

(E.) SHIPPING.

34. The following return gives the number and tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared in 1907 as compared with 1906 :—

	1906.				1907.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
United Kingdom ...	—	—	—	—	1	248	1	248
United States ...	125	12,720	110	11,424	119	11,421	115	12,344
British West Indies	61	1,805	84	3,076	61	2,282	76	1,950
Cuba ...	16	1,310	16	1,317	15	1,590	15	1,355
Hayti ...	10	198	7	149	17	193	7	99
Central America ...	—	—	3	447	—	—	—	—
Mexico ...	1	90	3	390	—	—	—	—
Porto Rico ...	1	309	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canada ...	1	298	—	—	—	—	—	—
Danish West Indies	—	—	2	21	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	215	16,730	225	16,824	213	15,734	214	15,996

35. The following is a similar return for steam vessels :—

	1906.				1907.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.	Number.	Tons.
United Kingdom ...	6	14,844	5	12,360	—	—	2	368
United States ...	240	425,686	242	420,713	249	439,595	246	488,833
British West Indies	59	126,861	92	201,059	69	176,852	98	233,313
South America ...	35	77,886	15	33,901	26	61,042	18	40,060
Hayti ...	10	15,438	52	80,138	6	9,416	51	81,216
Cuba ...	26	47,824	29	58,413	12	30,606	26	60,438
Mexico ...	9	18,509	15	30,405	16	36,420	16	40,772
Danish West Indies	1	2,277	—	—	—	—	—	—
British Honduras ...	2	4,778	3	7,167	—	—	1	1,277
U. S. Colombia ...	55	91,212	—	—	70	114,161	—	—
Canada ...	10	19,031	1	1,827	12	27,009	1	1,969
Totals ...	453	844,346	454	845,983	460	949,101	459	948,246

36. The number and tonnage of steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared during 1907, distinguishing nationalities, are given in the following return :—

Nationality.	Sailing Vessels.				Steam Vessels.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
British ...	179	10,428	180	10,690	42	85,038	44	87,937
American ...	29	5,202	29	5,202	97	197,971	98	199,139
Haytian ...	4	77	4	77	—	—	—	—
Cuban ...	1	27	1	27	1	1,106	1	1,106
German ...	—	—	—	—	313	658,661	310	653,739
Norwegian ...	—	—	—	—	5	5,887	5	5,887
Swedish ...	—	—	—	—	1	438	1	438
Totals ...	213	15,734	214	15,996	460	949,101	459	948,246
Totals in 1906 ...	215	16,730	225	16,824	453	844,346	454	845,983

37. The number of sailing vessels built in the Colony during the past five years was :—

Year.			Number.	Tonnage.
1903	...	...	14	557
1904	...	...	18	299
1905	...	...	5	77
1906	...	...	13	229
1907	...	...	11	190

A large schooner of over 300 tons was also under construction at Harbour Island.

III.—LEGISLATION.

38. Thirty-nine Acts were assented to during the session of 1908, the most important of which are :—

- (1.) The Out-island Administration Act.
- (2.) The Magistrates (Amendment) Act.
- (3.) The Immigrant Paupers (Prevention) Act.
- (4.) The Education Act.
- (5.) The Marriage Act.
- (6.) The Motor Car Act.
- (7.) The Tariff Act.

(1.) This is by far the most important Act of the session. It re-organises the out-island administration of the Colony. It substitutes Commissioners for Resident Justices and Assistant-Resident Justices, and vests in such Commissioners all powers heretofore enjoyed by a Resident Justice. The service is graded into divisions and the salaries are higher than those formerly paid to Resident Justices. The compulsory retiring age has been fixed at 60 years. The Act also provides for the appointment of three cadets.

(2.) This Act greatly increases the civil and criminal jurisdiction of magistrates and is particularly intended to facilitate the administration of justice in the out-islands. The Act carries out some of the recommendations of the 1905 Out-island Commission.

(3.) This Act is based on a Barbados Act and is intended to prevent the Colony being saddled with the burden of indigent aliens and stowaways.

(4.) This Act raises the compulsory attendance age to 14 years and consolidates and amends the existing law. It also incorporates the Board and increases the grant.

(5.) This Act brings the Colony into line with Jamaica, Grenada, and British Honduras and requires all marriage officers to be registered.

(6.) This Act regulates the law relating to motor cars and follows the Jamaica law on the subject.

(7.) This Act generally improves the law of the Colony on the subject of customs and provides a new classified tariff which, however, contains no variation of great importance.

39. To a Bill passed by the Legislature to abolish duties of probate the Governor refused his assent.

40. The Electric Light Act of 1907 was amended by increasing the vote for electric light and energy for Nassau from £12,000 to £15,500.

41. A Bill for facilitating the acquisition of land for public purposes was unfortunately rejected by the House of Assembly.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) PRIMARY.

42. The following table gives statistics of the primary schools. They do not include private and denominational schools :—

Year.	Board Schools.				Grant-in-aid Schools.				Schools Aided by Grant of Material only.				Total.			
	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.	Number.	Pupils.	Average roll.	Average attendance.
1905	44	7,204	6,089	4,509	12	1,077	928	571	5	253	232	186	61	8,534	7,249	5,266
1906	46	7,314	6,154	4,592	16	1,199	1,042	632	—	—	—	—	62	8,513	7,196	5,224
1907	46	7,151	6,026	4,498	16	1,295	1,199	741	—	—	—	—	62	8,446	7,225	5,239

43. The teaching staff under the Board was as follows :—

	1905.	1906.	1907.
Principal teachers ...	44	46	46
Assistant teachers ...	6	8	7
Pupil teachers ...	6	5	4
Monitors... ..	112	132	127
Sewing teachers ...	7	9	9
Students in training ...	3	3	3
Employed in aided schools	13	16	16
Total ...	191	219	212

44. The total numbers receiving primary education are given in the following table :—

	1905.			1906.			1907.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Board Schools ..	3,189	2,900	6,089	3,232	2,923	6,160	3,160	2,866	6,026
Aided Private Schools ..	493	435	928	578	489	1,065	680	619	1,199
Church of England ..	806	886	1,692	747	832	1,579	728	813	1,541
Roman Catholic ..	189	302	491	211	268	479	209	283	492
Private Schools ..	135	154	289	138	188	326	93	88	181
Wesleyan Schools..	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	34	53
Total ..	4,812	4,677	9,489	4,904	4,705	9,609	4,889	4,603	9,492

45. The average cost per child was £1, as against 19s. 9d. in 1906 and 19s. 11d. in 1905.

46. In New Providence 212 cases (as against 154 in 1906) were reported under the compulsory attendance section of the Act. 8 were not tried, 77 dismissed, 38 orders made, 89 fined.

In the out-islands 610 cases were reported (as against 675 in 1906). 70 were not tried, 185 were dismissed, 197 orders made, 151 fined, 7 truants.

47. In addition to the schools under the control of the Board, there were 27 maintained by the Church of England, 6 of which were in New Providence. Total roll 1,541, average roll 847.

There were also 4 Roman Catholic Schools as against 3 in 1906. Total roll 534 (479 in 1906), and 13 private schools (16 in 1906); roll 181 (326 in 1906).

48. By an Act passed during the recent session the annual vote to the Board of Education has been increased from £5,000 to £6,000 a year, and the school age has been raised from 13 to 14.

(B.) SECONDARY EDUCATION.

49. There is yet no State provision for secondary education.

50. Private organizations connected with religious bodies provided higher instruction as follows :—

Name of School.	Number of Boys.	Number of Girls.	Total.
Queen's College	27	37	64
Nassau Grammar School	14	—	14
St. Francis Xavier's Academy	15	27	42
Governor's Harbour (Eleuthera)	12	11	23
Total	68	75	143

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS. (B.) ASYLUMS. (C.) POORHOUSE.

51. During the year the new Act came into force under which the Resident Surgeon was relieved of his non-professional duties, and a lay superintendent was appointed, and the working of the institution under the new system was satisfactory.

The number of inmates on the 1st January, 1907, was :—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Alexandra Hospital	38	22	60
Victoria Infirmary	14	17	31
Lunatic Asylum	18	15	33
Leper Asylum	8	1	9
Totals	78	55	133

533 patients were admitted during the year, making the total number under treatment 666, of whom 253 were discharged recovered, 102 relieved, 82 discharged not improved, and 124 died.

At the close of the year 105 remained, distributed as follows :—

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Alexandra Hospital	29	19	48
Victoria Infirmary	11	12	23
Lunatic Asylum	15	15	30
Leper Asylum	3	1	4
Totals	58	47	105

52. The assistant surgeon visited 395 cases at their homes.

53. The affairs of the institution are administered by a Board of Commissioners, to whom a sum of £6,000 is annually granted.

54. By an Act passed during the recent session the name of "New Providence Asylum" which has been attached to this institution for generations has been changed to the more appropriate one of "Bahamas General Hospital."

(D.) SAVINGS BANK.

55. The number of depositors on the 30th June, 1907 (the end of the savings bank's year), was 2,151 ; on the 30th June, 1906, 1,971 ; on the 30th June, 1905, 1,864.

The deposits and withdrawals were as follows :—

Year ended 30th June	Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£
1905	3,751	10,447	2,216	7,272
1906	3,858	9,791	2,528	8,580
1907	4,606	11,927	2,723	8,002

The balance due to depositors was, on the 30th June, 1907, £29,750 as against £25,196 on the 30th June, 1906.

56. The assets and liabilities were as follows :—

Year ended 30th June	Assets.	Excess of Assets over Liabilities.
	£	£
1905	24,465	1,034
1906	26,448	1,252
1907	31,237	1,483

The average amount to the credit of each account on the 30th June, 1907, was £16 3s. 2d. as against £15 3s. 7d. on the 30th June, 1906.

57. In the first year of the establishment of the Savings Bank there were 344 depositors, £3,055 deposits, and £379 withdrawals.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

58. The strength of the force on the 1st January, 1908, was 105.

59. The Commandant reports that the number of persons prosecuted by the Police in New Providence was 796 of whom 345 were reported and 451 arrested. In 1906 the number was 834.

There were prosecuted *inter alia*—

173 cases of profane language in public.

74 „ „ drunkenness in public.

45 „ „ fighting in public.

50 „ „ assault.

- 71 cases of breach of Street Traffic Acts.
- 53 „ „ breach of Sponge Acts.
- 40 „ „ breach of Dog Act.
- 18 „ „ cruelty to animals.
- 57 „ „ larceny.

60. The Commandant reports juvenile crime to have been prevalent during the year, young boys having adopted the plan of hiding in places of business and then stealing. More control than the law at present affords is required.

61. There were 12 outbreaks of fire in Nassau of which two were incendiary and two suspected to be incendiary. Property to the value of £716 was endangered, the insurance on which amounted to about £194.

62. It is in contemplation to introduce a Bill into the legislature next session to improve the position and prospects of the force.

(B.) PRISONS.

63. The daily average number in prison was 53·75.

The total number of persons committed in 1907 was 191, of whom 117 were men, 57 women and 17 juveniles.

Prisoners are employed in weeding, cleaning, and keeping in order public grounds and roads, and in making bread, uniforms, and clothing required for the General Hospital and Prison.

The sanitary state of the prison was very good.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

64. The following is a table of the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last five years (comparative table):—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates.	3,006	2,849	3,016	2,585	2,755
Number of summary convictions :					
(1) For offences against the person	278	277	286	293	407
(2) For prædial larceny	50	49	40	24	44
(3) For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	119	102	107	102	155
(4) For other offences	1,717	1,922	1,723	1,435	2,149
Number of convictions in the Superior Court :					
(1) For offences against the person	15	11	17	9	19
(2) For prædial larceny	—	—	—	2	—
(3) For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	19	13	5	3	18
(4) For other offences	2	4	5	7	6
Number of persons acquitted :					
(1) In Inferior Court... ..	481	385	545	451	520
(2) In Superior Court	8	27	10	10	14

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

65. The population by the census of 1901 was 53,735.

The estimated population on the 31st December, 1907, was 59,713, but this figure takes no account of emigration or immigration.

Births in 1907—2,187. Deaths in 1907—1,611. No death certificates are required in this colony.

66. The area and population by the census of 1901 of the various Islands were as follows :—

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abaco and Cays	776	1,568	1,746	3,314
Acklin's Island	120	704	861	1,565
Andros Island	1,600	3,192	3,155	6,347
Berry Islands	14	210	173	383
Biminis	8½	263	282	545
Cays Sal and Lobos	7	9	9	18
Crooked Island	76	731	866	1,597
Eleuthera	164	4,159	4,574	8,733
Exuma and Cays	100	1,373	1,713	3,086
Grand Bahama	430	869	911	1,780
Harbour Island	1½	573	659	1,232
Inagua	560	748	705	1,453
Long Cay	8	257	242	499
Long Island	130	1,610	1,952	3,562
Mayaguana	96	161	174	335
New Providence	58	5,492	7,042	12,534
Ragged Island and Cays	5	192	173	365
Rum Cay	29	235	294	529
San Salvador... ..	160	2,090	2,568	4,658
Spanish Wells	½	271	263	534
Watling's Island	60	293	374	667
Total	4,403½	25,000	28,735	53,735

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

67. The Medical Inspector reports that the health of New Providence for the past six months of the year was good, but later there was an epidemic of whooping cough throughout the colony, with considerable mortality. Malarial fever of a rather severe type occurred in larger numbers than usual. 19 cases of typhoid fever of a mild type were reported.

68. Rules were framed for the dealing with mosquitoes, but it is unlikely that the pest can be materially abated in view of the existence to the south of Nassau of swamps and thousands of potholes in which the mosquitoes breed.

69. 127 successful vaccinations were performed in New Providence, and 1,425 in the out-islands.

(C.) SANITATION.

70. The sanitation of Nassau is good except that the drains require fuller and more frequent flushing, for which a certain provision has been made this year by the House of Assembly.

(D.) CLIMATE.

71. The following are the meteorological data for the past five years :—

Year.	Temperature.			Means of		Extremes of		Rainfall.
	8 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	
1903	77.1	79.3	78.2	81.8	70.5	92	54	51.45
1904	77.2	80.0	78.6	82.3	70.8	91	52.5	59.56
1905	77.6	80.2	78.9	83.7	71.9	92.5	52	54.69
1906	76.7	79.2	77.9	81.18	70.9	88	64	59.60
1907	77.5	80.0	78.8	82.3	71.5	91.5	60	39.30
Average for five years.	77.2	79.7	78.4	82.2	71.1	91	56.9	51.12

It will be seen that the rainfall in 1907 was very largely below the average.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

72. The postal revenue for 1907-8 was £3,820, as against £3,831 in 1906-7, a decrease of £11. The expenditure was £481.

The sales of stamps amounted to £2,527, as against £2,633 in the previous year. The decrease is due to smaller receipts from the sale of 5s. and 20s. stamps for revenueal purposes.

The total number of postal packets received and despatched was 644,808, as against 538,838 in 1906-7, and 484,455 in 1905-6.

The following table compares the quantities of postal matter received and despatched in 1906-7 and 1907-8.

	Received.				Despatched.			
	1906-7.	1907-8.	Increase.	Decrease.	1906-7.	1907-8.	Increase.	Decrease.
Foreign—								
Letters and post-cards.	186,477	251,011	64,534	—	156,978	168,443	12,465	—
Newspapers and books.	84,184	93,224	9,040	—	12,250	13,872	1,622	—
Inter-insular—								
Letters and post-cards.	33,746	40,370	6,624	—	41,687	50,279	8,642	—
Newspapers and books.	585	912	327	—	23,981	26,697	2,716	—
Totals	304,992	385,517	80,525	—	233,846	259,291	25,445	—

73. The Parcel Post figures were as follows :—

	Number.	Value.
		£ s. d.
From the United Kingdom... ..	2,382	4,262 13 6
„ „ United States	2,982	2,079 3 7
To the United Kingdom	481	431 4 5
„ „ United States	502	181 5 9
Totals	6,347	6,954 7 3

In 1906-7 the figures were—

Parcels from the United Kingdom 2,138, value £3,289.

Parcels from the United States 2,899, value £1,982.

74. Money Orders issued and paid were as follows :—

Countries.	Issued.		Paid.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Canada	27	198 18 4	19	66 1 10
United Kingdom	629	1,078 15 11	75	189 9 11
United States	1,362	2,521 4 10	398	1,615 12 6
Totals	2,018	3,798 19 1	492	1,871 4 3

The figures in 1906-7 were—

Issued 1,691, value £1,983.

Paid 458, value £1,563.

75. During the year 1907-8 1,598 British Postal Orders, value (including poundage) £670 1s. 11d. were issued, and 276 orders, value £184 18s. 5d. paid, as against 1,081, value £401 issued and 211, value £106 paid in the previous year.

76. During the year new money orders conventions with the United States and Canada came into force dispensing with the use of Exchange Offices. Two of the out-islands—Inagua and Long Cay—the centres of the emigrant labour traffic—were placed in direct money order communication with those countries, resulting in a large increase in the number and amount of transactions.

77. Certain changes made by the Rome Convention came into operation from the 1st October, 1907.* The unit of weight for letters was raised from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to 1 oz., the postage to foreign countries being reduced after the first unit from $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each successive unit or fraction thereof, the latter rate of postage to the United Kingdom and British Possessions being 1d. per oz. These changes have not materially affected the revenue except by way of diminishing the amount of postage collected on insufficiently-paid letters.

TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

78. The revenue of the Telegraph Department was £1,248 and the expenditure £545. In the previous year the revenue was £1,258 and the expenditure £552.

A total of 3,847 messages passed over the cable, of which 369 were to and from Great Britain. The total number in 1906 was 3,836* and in 1905 4,419.

TELEPHONE SERVICE.

79. 218 stations are now in operation in Nassau and suburbs. The revenue for the year 1908-9 is put at £900 and the expenditure (exclusive of interest and sinking fund) at £490.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

80. With regard to emigrant labour, the Resident Justice of Inagua writes :—

The ships taking stevedores were those of the Hamburg-American Line and George D. Emery Co. The contract labourers were employed by the Mexican Central Railway Co. and the George D. Emery Co. Cash paid out at Inagua during the year was £19,752.

* Incorrectly printed in Report for 1905-6 as 2,836.

81. The Resident Justice at Long Cay reports :—

The Hamburg-American Line is the only company which has employed stevedore labourers during the year. Their Agreement with the labourers is through a local agent, and in effect provides for discharging cargoes at their Southern terminus—Jamaica and ports on the Spanish main—and loading cargoes for New York ; as well as for any ordinary work which may be required. These men are discharged on their return. The rate of pay is 2s. per day, with overtime pay at 5d. per hour. Hours for work are from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., the length of voyage averages 16 days. The foreman of each ship is paid on board \$5 as a gratuity for the faithful discharge of his duties.

The Panama Railroad Company employed dock labourers for work on their piers at Colon and Christobal, and for assisting in discharging and loading their ships. The period of their contracts is for 6 months, renewable for another six months, at the company's option. Wages at \$15 per month with the accustomed overtime pay of 10 cents. per hour. Time for work is from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. The company contracts through a representative at this island.

82. The subjoined table compares the labour traffic in 1907 with that of the three previous years :—

	Number of steam vessels entered outward bound.	Number of labourers engaged.		Number of steam vessels entered home-ward bound.	Number of labourers brought back after expiration of engagement.	
		To work on board ship. (Stevedores.)	To work on docks, railroads, lumber camps, &c.		From work on boardship. (Stevedores.)	From work on docks, railways, lumber camps, &c.
Inagua :						
1904 ...	68	2,081	675	69	2,100	724
1905 ...	78	2,010	545	80	2,004	697
1906 ...	93	2,675	532	92	2,760	352
1907 ...	92	2,887	595	95	2,985	396
Long Cay :						
1904 ...	66	1,534	280	65	1,489	137
1905 ...	68	1,513	640	66	1,455	265
1906 ...	77	2,115	493	87	1,995	496
1907 ...	85	2,557	458	89	2,476	446

83. On the 1st of January last the Act for the protection of emigrant labourers referred to in paragraph 57 of my Report for 1906 came into force. It is too early yet to report on its working, but it is understood that, so far, no contracts have been signed under the Act. The employment of stevedores, who are not affected by the Act, continues.

84. There were no hurricanes during the year, which was a fairly prosperous one. There was little distress, special relief having to be sent to only two small islands—Acklins and Mayaguana.



Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

85. A serious fire occurred at Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, inflicting heavy financial loss and rendering a number of poor people temporarily homeless, in aid of whom private subscriptions were collected.

86. A long-continued drought caused a decrease in the production of fruit, vegetables, and ground crops. The price of sisal has dwindled considerably, partly owing to general financial depression, but partly, no doubt, to the export of immature and badly cleaned fibre, an evil which the House of Assembly has hitherto declined to combat. The sponge trade is also in a low state.

87. The following is a statement of liquor licences issued in the Colony, and revenue derived therefrom in 1906 and 1907 :—

Year.	General.	Wholesale.	Hotel.	Special.	Amount Received.
1906	77	25	2	2	£1,222 6s. 8d.
1907	82	26	1	Nil.	£1,405 0s. 0d.

General, Hotel, and Special Licences are retail licences.

W. HART BENNETT,
Colonial Secretary.

Nassau, Bahamas,
1st July, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907-1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907-1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
47	Do. do. ...	Do. 1905-6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies ...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria ...	Forest Administration
52	South Africa ...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 544.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 497.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. ;
or OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH ;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1907.

[Cd. 3729-8.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 544.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 497.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Barbados,

31st August, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Barbados Blue Book for the year 1906-7 and my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

S. W. KNAGGS,

Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue of the year 1906-7 was £204,704 and the expenditure £186,016, giving a surplus of £18,688, and increasing the Treasury balance on the 31st of March, 1907, to £36,644.

2. The revenue exceeded the estimate by £20,603, and was larger by £12,413 than that of 1905-6, the principal increases, as compared with that year, having been under the following heads :—

	£
Customs	9,096
Excise	1,065
Post Office	863
Water Works	1,410

3. The revenue from Customs (£127,950) continues to show a satisfactory gradual increase notwithstanding the manner in which it must have been affected by the withdrawal of the garrison, and the cessation for some considerable period of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's regular contract services. The Customs receipts for the last previous 10 years were :—

	£
1896	104,191
1897	106,880
1898	106,709
1899	104,370
1900	114,255
1901-2	104,972
1902-3	92,530
1903-4	107,610
1904-5	112,978
1905-6	118,854

The receipts of 1906-7 were consequently £20,615 above the average of this period. The revenue from Excise, £28,127, also showed for the first time for some years a marked increase, and although this evidence of a larger expenditure by the people under this head is not a matter for unqualified gratification, it is but proper to note that there has been concurrently with it a general decrease in the criminal statistics of the Colony.

4. The expenditure (£186,016) was larger by £5,084 than that of the last previous financial year. This is attributable

partly to the fact that certain charges on account of the public debt which fell due in 1905-6 were paid during the year under review, but principally to the large increase in the coaling business of the Colony, which entailed corresponding allowances for drawback of duty.

5. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1907, was £409,100, but as a set off against this there were sinking fund accumulations to the amount of £60,010 and an unexpended balance of £23,928 out of the loan of £375,000 which was effected in 1895 for the Water Works. If these are taken into account the public debt will stand at £325,162.

6. The revenue of the 11 parishes, including the legislative grant of £5,450 for road purposes, was £56,402, and the expenditure £54,221.

7. No change was made during the year in the general system of taxation. By the Act No. 17 of 1906 kerosine oil to be used as fuel for oil or motor engines is admitted free of duty.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

8. The value of the imports during the year 1906 was £1,192,328, and of the exports £629,319.

9. The imports show an increase over those of 1905 of £149,766, mainly due to larger importations of cotton, linen, silk, and woollen goods, manures, coal, staves, and lumber. The following table shows the extent of these and other principal increases :—

—	Imports of 1905.	Imports of 1906.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Cotton, Silk, and Woollen Goods	168,640	208,166	39,526
Manures and Fertilizers ...	71,449	103,747	32,298
Coal... ..	28,580	57,170	28,590
Staves	20,557	42,470	21,913
Lumber	22,829	41,545	18,716
Corn and Grain	29,249	39,111	9,862
Meat, salted	45,458	54,445	8,987
Flour	68,540	75,574	7,034
Fish, salted... ..	33,184	39,774	6,590
Liquors	24,772	28,268	3,496
Leather, manufactured ...	17,459	20,692	3,233
Drugs and Chemicals ...	9,349	12,192	2,843
Oil	11,659	13,717	2,058

Decreases are chiefly shown under the following heads, the large diminution in the importation of rice being probably due

to the more abundant supply of locally-grown produce, which, in conjunction with the operations of the local biscuit factory, would also account for the diminished importations of hard bread and cornmeal :—

	Imports of 1905.	Imports of 1906.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Rice... ..	81,067	63,595	17,472
Hardware	30,727	22,931	7,796
Animals, living	25,127	18,717	6,410
Coffee	13,643	10,030	3,613
Cornmeal	27,354	24,027	3,327
Bread and crackers	14,533	12,000	2,533
Oilmeal	13,398	12,268	1,130

10. The following table shows the countries of origin of the imports, as compared with those of 1905 :—

Countries.	1905.	1906.
	£	£
United Kingdom	445,455	482,116
United States	336,706	404,334
Canada	83,581	86,673
British West Indies	81,388	84,792
British Guiana	25,309	35,779
East Indies (Calcutta)	31,138	33,546
Foreign West Indies	14,396	15,016
France... ..	4,508	12,347
Chili	4,455	7,642
Other places	15,626	30,083
	1,042,562	1,192,328

11. As an evidence of the greater stability of the sugar industry, due probably to the combined influence of the Brussels Convention and the operation of the local Plantations in Aid Acts, the following table, showing the value of the machinery imported during the last five years to be used in the manufacture of sugar or rum, may have some interest :—

Year.	From United Kingdom.	From United States.	From other Places.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1902... ..	4,766 1 10	16 10	78 1 8	4,845 0 4
1903... ..	3,189 1 7	98 9 4	647 11 6	3,935 2 5
1904... ..	7,760 3 4	182 16 0	450 15 11	8,393 15 3
1905... ..	5,813 14 9	342 1 7	920 2 11	7,075 19 3
1906... ..	12,580 1 4	31 9 7	1,522 19 3	14,134 10 2

12. The following table shows the imports during 1906 from Canada and the United States respectively :—

Articles.	From British North America.	From United States.
	£	£
Bacon and Hams	80	2,042
Beef and Pork (salted or pickled) ...	1,091	49,563
Bran and Pollard	1	7,316
Bread and Crackers	—	11,455
Butter	1,071	2,087
Oleomargarine	—	4,449
Corn and Maize (unground)	—	7,916
Cornmeal	6	23,927
Fish (salted)	20,508	18,563
Flour, Wheat or Rye	4,302	69,777
Grain, unenumerated	1,473	8,128
Lard and compounds	—	8,676
Oats	1	20,623
Oilmeal and Oilcake	—	12,267
Woods :		
White Pine, Pitch Pine, &c.	20,555	16,616
Shingles	6,182	17
Staves	1,856	27,212
Total value of principal and other articles	91,904	404,334

13. The value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony exported in 1906 shows a decrease of £67,511 on that of 1905; for although in 1906 the sugar crop was the larger the price of sugar was considerably lower. These exports were shipped to the undermentioned places :—

	Amount.
	£
United Kingdom	158,693
Canada	243,225
United States of America	149,586
Newfoundland	45,737
British West Indies	18,550
British Guiana	5,042
Bermuda	2,670
French Guiana	1,830
Madeira	1,515
Foreign West Indies... ..	1,171
Dutch Guiana	605
Colon	382
Holland	270
Africa, West Coast	36
British Honduras	6
Total	629,318

14. The staple products of the island for 1906 were estimated to value £592,123, as enumerated below :—

—	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar, dry	1,984 hogsheads	£ 15,872
„ muscovado	55,879 „	335,274
Molasses	61,398 puncheons	214,893
Rum	1,037 gallons	78
Cotton, raw	483,478 lbs.	26,006
Total	—	592,123

The sugar and molasses were distributed in the following manner :—

—	Sugar, Hogsheads.	Molasses, Puns.	Values.
United Kingdom	20,465	1,143	£ 127,176
Canada	16,118	40,913	243,086
Newfoundland	—	12,970	45,395
Other British Colonies	936	129	6,067
United States	20,116	5,793	141,372
Other Foreign Countries	228	450	2,943
Total	57,863	61,398	566,039

The entire cotton crop was shipped to the United Kingdom. The cultivation of this product continues to make satisfactory progress. The exports since 1903, the year when the industry was started, have been as under :—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£
1903	550	28
1904	191,861	9,593
1905	344,232	17,211
1906	483,473	26,006

15. The value of the minor products exported was less by £13,629 than that of 1905, as the following comparative table will show :—

—				1905.	1906.
				£	£
Aërated and mineral waters	...	...	...	595	322
Animals, living	...	...	...	2,422	2,250
Bananas	...	...	...	6,706	718
Bread, hard	...	...	...	9,780	2,768
Chemical manufactures	...	...	...	544	245
Fruit and vegetables, fresh...	...	...	...	5,098	7,167
Hides, raw	...	...	...	5,375	5,165
Ice	...	...	...	205	350
Lime, building and temper	...	...	...	3,174	1,423
Manjak	...	...	...	9,292	7,820
Oil, whale	...	...	...	70	608
Oleomargarine	...	...	...	4,391	5,129
Tamarinds	...	...	...	123	639
Other minor products	...	...	...	3,050	2,592
Total	...	...	...	50,825	37,196

The entire reduction is due to smaller exportations of locally-made biscuits and of bananas, the latter trade having been practically killed by the want of proper means of transportation.

16. The value of the transit trade showed a satisfactory increase of £64,632, having grown from £239,015 in 1905 to £303,647 in 1906.

SHIPPING.

17. Four hundred and forty-two steamers and 663 sailing vessels were entered during the year, their total tonnage being 881,528 tons. Their nationality was as under :—

Nationality.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British	415	765,946	589	58,937	1,004	824,883
American	1	1,634	11	4,681	12	6,315
German	1	1,914	—	—	1	1,914
Norwegian	20	30,568	5	3,452	25	34,020
Dutch	3	3,279	48	3,070	51	6,349
Danish	—	—	2	406	2	406
Russian	—	—	1	261	1	261
Italian	—	—	3	1,565	3	1,565
French	—	—	2	98	2	98
Portuguese	—	—	1	196	1	196
Venezuelan	—	—	1	45	1	45
Belgian	2	5,476	—	—	2	5,476
Totals	442	808,817	663	72,711	1,105	881,528

18. The coaling business of the port continues to increase, as the following figures will show :—

	Year.	Number of Steamers that coaled.	Number of Tons of Coal they took in.
	1903	73	12,000
	1904	96	16,000
	1905	121	20,000
	1906	228	46,692

and there can be little doubt that were better facilities afforded for storing and handling the coal there would still be further expansion. The Government has at present under its consideration a scheme which it is hoped will provide in some measure the facilities needed.

19. The Harbour Master reports that 15,607 passengers arrived in the Colony during the year : 3,553 saloon passengers, and 12,054 third-class passengers and deckers. Among the latter were 3,501 natives of Barbados, who were returning after spells of employment in the Panama Canal zone. These brought back with them various sums of money aggregating £18,800.

EXCISE.

20. 184,729 gallons of locally-manufactured rum were duty paid in 1906—less than a gallon per head of the population. This showed an increased consumption of 7,969 gallons, and yielded £1,195 additional duty. The duty received was £27,709. The increased consumption is probably to be attributed to the return to the Colony of large numbers of labourers who had emigrated to Panama, and returned to spend their earnings here.

21. The duty on rum is 3s. a gallon, with a tax of one half-penny a gallon for the distiller's licence. This tax is collected when the rum is duty paid.

22. The revenue from excise licences yielded £3,690, raising the total receipts from Excise duty to £31,399.

AGRICULTURE.

23. The sugar crop for the year 1906 was 55,879 hogsheads of muscovado, 1,984 hogsheads of vacuum pan crystals, and 61,398 puncheons of molasses, of the total value of £566,039. This is more than the previous year by 10,766 hogsheads of sugar, and 22,019 puncheons of molasses. Although the crop was more than the previous year, owing to the lower price at which it sold, the value was £62,658 less. The crop for 1906 was slightly above the average for the past sixty years as regards

sugar, which is 49,873 hogsheads, being 7,990 hogsheads more. At the present time a considerable quantity of "fancy" molasses is manufactured direct from the juice of the sugar cane, but no separate account is kept for the shipment of this grade; consequently, it is impossible to distinguish between molasses made in this way and that which drains from the sugar after it is manufactured. Owing to the preferential treatment accorded to the sugar imported into Canada from the British Colonies, the exports of sugar to that country from Barbados increased in value from £122,199 in 1902 to £206,007 in 1905. At the same time the exports to the United States decreased. In 1906, however, the exports of sugar to Canada dropped to £99,890, but at the same time sugar to the value of £121,632 was exported to Great Britain, chiefly for refining purposes, an increase of £35,296 on the previous year.

24. The rainfall during the early part of 1906 was below the average, and the young sugar canes, especially the ratoons, suffered to a considerable extent from the drought. The rainy season, however, commenced in June, and the rainfall conditions being favourable the canes made considerable progress until the end of November when dry weather again set in, and practically continued until the end of May, 1907; the result being that the sugar canes were somewhat dry, and the yield in many instances, especially on the estates on which ratoons were grown, below the average. The crop for 1907 is expected to be 33,000 tons of sugar, and 63,000 puncheons of molasses; *i.e.*, 24,863 tons of sugar less, and 1,602 puncheons of molasses more than the previous year.

25. The cotton industry, I am glad to report, still continues to make satisfactory progress. In 1906 it was estimated that 5,000 acres were under this crop, and it is estimated that about 1,600 bales containing 800,000 lbs. of lint will be exported therefrom, which at the average price of 2s. per lb. is £80,000. Although owing to the unfavourable weather conditions during the last season, the cotton crop has been short, yet as the prices obtained were good the planters have still, in most instances, realized a profit from the crop; consequently it is not likely that the area planted this season will be less than the last.

26. The cotton ginning factory belonging to the Barbados Co-operative Cotton Factory, Ltd., which was being erected last year, has been completed, and can now gin, without delay, all the cotton sent to it. A factory for the extraction of oil from cotton seed, and for the preparation of cotton-cake-meal for feeding the working oxen and other animals, has been erected by Messrs. H. E. Thorne & Son, and is now in operation.

27. The banana industry, which the Imperial Department of Agriculture sought to establish during the years 1902 to 1905, and which owing to defects in the shipping arrangements practically came to an end towards the close of the latter year, cannot be said to have been revived, as only a few bunches were shipped

during the year under review. The returns, however, for these few bunches were satisfactory, showing that if suitable arrangements were made for the carriage of the fruit, a remunerative banana industry could easily be established between this Colony and the Mother Country.

28. During the year a Committee entitled the Permanent Exhibition Committee was appointed to prepare exhibits for any Exhibitions at which it may be decided for Barbados to be represented, and exhibits of the principal products of the Colony were shown at the Toronto and Halifax Exhibitions, held in August and September, 1906. A handbook containing historical, agricultural, and general information concerning the Colony was forwarded along with the exhibits, for free distribution to visitors. All arrangements in Canada were, on behalf of the Colony, undertaken by Mr. C. S. Pickford, a representative of the firm of Messrs. Pickford & Black, of Halifax, and the thanks of the Colony are due to him for the efficient manner in which the exhibits were staged, and the West Indian Court, including Barbados, decorated. Not long before the exhibitions were held, the British Consul at Chicago applied to the Government for samples of the principal products of the Colony. The exhibits were, therefore, after the exhibitions were over, forwarded to that gentleman, and at the beginning of 1907 enquiries were received through him from merchants in Canada and the United States with reference to car loads of manjak, infusorial earth, crude petroleum, asphaltum oil, green tar, and liquid asphalt.

III.—LEGISLATION.

29. Thirty-three Acts were passed during the year 1906. The principal of these were :—

No. 1 of 1906.—To regulate the sale of cotton, and to protect the newly-established cotton industry by prohibiting the sale of cotton without a certificate, and imposing certain obligations on the planters. It was found necessary to pass two amending Acts—1906-15 and 1906-30.

No. 5 of 1906.—To consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the Court of Chancery.

No. 6 of 1906.—Granting a subsidy of £2,000 a year for ten years to the Barbados Light Railway.

No. 11 of 1906.—To continue in operation until the 31st August, 1907, the Plantations in Aid Acts.

No. 17 of 1906.—Exempts from duty kerosine oil to be used as fuel in oil and motor engines.

No. 22 of 1906.—To encourage the local manufacture of bay rum.

No. 23 of 1906.—Increases the rate of interest to be paid to savings bank depositors from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

No. 28 of 1906.—Renders the Railway Company liable for damage by fire caused by its engines.

IV.—EDUCATION.

30. The total expenditure on education during the year 1906-7 was £16,883.

31. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but four Island Scholarships are annually awarded to the students at the College, each of the value of £40 a year, and tenable for two years. There are 15 students on its roll.

32. The statistics relating to the higher grade schools which receive grants from the Treasury are as follows :—

Name of School.	Government Grant,	Pupils' Fees, &c.	Number of Pupils on Roll.
BOYS.			
Harrison College ...	£ 1,000	£ 1,684	144
The Lodge School ...	500	655	57
Combermere School ...	300	804	133
The Coleridge School ...	100	152	26
The Alleyne School ...	100	39	17
The Parry School ...	100	123	20
GIRLS.			
Queen's College ...	400	926	97
The Alexandra School ...	125	257	39
Totals ...	2,625	4,640	33

33. The primary schools, which numbered 166, were established in connection with the following denominations :—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
Church of England	131	20,042	11,523	£ 8,088
Wesleyan ...	19	2,860	1,559	1,187
Moravian ...	16	2,276	1,268	955
Total...	166	25,178	14,350	10,230

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITAL.

34. The General Hospital is not a Government institution in the usually accepted sense of the term, but it is under the management of a Court of Trustees and Directors, eighteen in number, appointed under the Act of 1890. 5,059 patients were treated in the hospital during the year, of whom 414 died, and 19,840 out-patients received relief. An improvement was effected during 1906 by the reservation of four beds for paying patients, a class for whom provision was not previously made in the hospital. The total expenditure on the institution in 1906 was £6,722.

PRISONS.

35. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison during 1906 was 273—182 men and 91 women. These figures show a marked decrease on the statistics of 1905, which gave an average of 275 men and 128 women, and the Inspector of Prisons remarks that the male average was the lowest on record, while the female average was lower only in the years 1877 and 1881. There can be no doubt that these favourable conditions are chiefly due to the facilities for employment afforded, directly or indirectly, by the recruiting in the Colony of labourers for the Panama Canal Works. The expenditure on the institution was £5,034, less by £380 than that of the previous year, and represented an expenditure of £18 8s. 9d. per head. The actual proceeds of the prison labour were £19 6s. 8d., but the male prisoners are largely employed outside the prison walls on various public works, while the females also do the washing and cooking for the institution. The number of prisoners committed for penal imprisonment during 1906 was 2,290, being 149 less than the average of the previous five years. Against 1,397 of these previous convictions were recorded. The Chaplain of the prison reports that the discipline of the institution compares most favourably with that of twenty years ago. Corporal punishment and solitary confinement he states figured largely in those days, but now they are found to be few and far between.

36. There were 53 admissions during 1906 to the Government Industrial School for boys and 62 discharges, leaving the number remaining in the institution on the 31st of December, 1906, at 114. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the school was £1,845. The boys are chiefly employed on agricultural labour in the grounds attached to the institution, the principal produce being sugar and cotton, and the net value of the receipts was £1,240. The actual cost of the institution was, therefore, £605, equal to £5 2s. 6d. per head of the average number of inmates.

37. The question of the establishment of a Reformatory for girls, which has for some time been under consideration, has at last been settled, and the proposals only await the approval of the Legislature.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

38. Seventy-nine patients were committed to the Asylum during 1906. Thirty-two were discharged, and fifty-six died in the institution. The daily average number of inmates was 359—158 males and 201 females, which shows a decrease of 10 on the average number during 1905. The expenditure on the asylum in 1906 was £5,442, but against this must be set off the proceeds derived from the asylum farm, which amounted to £598 1s. 7d.

LAZARETTO.

39. Thirteen inmates were admitted during the year and 18 died, reducing the number in the institution at the close of the year to 126—63 of each sex. The cost of its maintenance in 1906 was £2,523. A scheme for effecting much needed improvements in the accommodation of the inmates has been prepared, and is now under the consideration of the Legislature. The estimated cost is £12,000.

POOR RELIEF.

40. The administration of the poor relief system is vested in the parochial authorities. In 1906-7 a sum of £17,927 was expended by them in the maintenance of the almshouses and other forms of poor relief.

SAVINGS BANK.

41. The number of depositors in the savings bank on the 31st of March last was 16,193, an increase of 885 in 12 months, and the amount standing to their credit £262,502, an increase of £17,687 in the same period. The rate of interest allowed on deposits was raised on the 1st of July, 1906, from $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

42. The number of friendly societies, which are extensively used by the people as repositories for their savings, had increased at the end of 1906 to 136, with £29,681 members and 64,013 dependents, making a total of 93,694 persons interested in such associations. The societies, which are under the inspection and control of a Registrar appointed by the Governor, make large use of the savings bank for the custody of their funds. At present the amount on which they are paid interest is limited to £300, but it is proposed to ask the Legislature to abolish this limit and to authorize the payment of interest on the entire sum standing to the credit of any society.

POST OFFICE.

43. The business of the Post Office Department continues steadily to increase. 1,502 mails were received from abroad during 1906, and 1,625 mails were despatched. The largest number were received from the following places :—

Brazil and Buenos Aires	...	...	142 mails.
Great Britain	...	...	101 "
United States	...	...	101 "
St. Lucia	...	...	87 "
British Guiana	...	...	84 "

In all 860,053 postal articles were received from abroad.

44. The number of postal articles despatched amounted to 778,993, and the largest number of mails went to the following places :—

United States	...	...	138 mails.
Trinidad	...	...	131 "
British Guiana	...	...	112 "
St. Lucia	...	...	96 "
Dominica	...	...	94 "
St. Kitts	...	...	85 "

45. The colony was served in the conveyance of mails by the under-mentioned lines of steamers :—

Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. (Southampton).
 Harrison Line (Liverpool).
 Leyland Line (Liverpool).
 Scrutton's Direct Line (London).
 Glasgow Line (Glasgow).
 Armstrong Line (United States of America and West Indies).
 Booth and Red Cross Line (United States of America and Brazil).
 Quebec Steamship Co. (United States of America and Brazil).
 Sloman Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
 Lamport and Holt (United States of America and Brazil).
 Prince Line (United States of America and Brazil).
 Lloyd Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
 Pickford and Black (Canada and West Indies).

46. The value of the money orders issued was £18,767, in addition to British postal orders to the value of £2,908. The money orders were chiefly drawn on the following places :—

	£
United Kingdom	9,001
United States	5,058
Trinidad	1,241
Canada	1,106
British Guiana	816

47. Money orders to the total amount of £41,870 were drawn upon the Colony during 1906, and British postal orders to the value of £4,978 were also paid. The larger part of the money orders were received from the following places :—

	£
United States... ..	16,666
Panama	7,509
Trinidad	4,177
British Guiana	3,184
United Kingdom	2,300
Grenada	2,141
Canada	1,539

The remittances by this channel from the United States show an increase of £5,479 over those of 1905. The amount (£7,509) remitted from Panama shows the result of five months working of the money order system with that place.

48. The revenue derived from the Post Office in 1906 was £8,593, and the expenditure of the department was £7,353.

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

49. The number of offences reported to the police during 1906 was 16,606, a decrease of 570 as compared with 1905. For these offences 13,042 were brought before the Police Magistrates, the cases being dealt with as follows :—

Summary convictions	9,343
Cases dismissed on the merits	2,411
Discharged for want of evidence	1,233
Committed for trial at the Court of Grand Sessions... ..	55
	13,042

50. The number of persons summarily convicted by the Magistrates was less by 1,396 than in 1905. The following table will show that, except in the case of malicious injury to property, there has been a marked reduction in all classes of crime, while that of prædial larceny has been reduced by one-half. There can be no doubt that this is attributable to the improved conditions of the peasantry consequent on the emigration of labourers to Panama :—

Summary Convictions.	Year.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1905.	1906.		
Offences against Revenue, Highway, and Health Acts.	4,259	4,012	—	247
Offences against the person	3,077	2,959	—	118
Offences against property	1,561	1,097	—	464
Prædial larceny	1,120	577	—	543
Malicious injury to property	68	84	16	—
Other offences	654	614	—	40
Total	10,739	9,343	—	—

51. Sixty-nine cases were dealt with in the Supreme Court for the following offences :—

Manslaughter	2
Concealment of birth	1
Rape	5
Unnatural crime	1
Other offences against the person ...	9
Offences against property	49
Miscellaneous offences	2
	69

The decisions in which were as under :—

Judgment for the Crown...	47
Judgment for the prisoner ...	13
Cases not prosecuted	9
	69

52. The total number of convictions in all the Courts in each of the last five years has been—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
In the Supreme Court ...	117	94	56	70	47
In the Magistrates' Courts...	11,685	10,416	10,004	10,739	9,343
Total	11,802	10,510	10,060	10,809	9,390

The number of convictions in 1906 gives a percentage of 4·74 to the population.

53. The number of convictions under the head of prædial larceny during the last ten years has been as follows :—

Year.					Number of Convictions for prædial larceny.
1897	...	...	...	...	950
1898	...	...	...	...	1,120
1899	...	...	...	...	1,367
1900	...	...	...	...	1,461
1901	...	...	...	...	1,298
1902	...	...	...	...	1,128
1903	...	...	...	...	955
1904	...	...	...	...	838
1905	...	...	...	...	1,120
1906	...	...	...	...	577

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

54. The population of the Colony was estimated to consist, on the 31st December, 1906, of 196,287 souls—87,158 males and 109,129 females. This shows a reduction of 3,255 on the estimate of the previous year, the decrease being in part (3,000) due to emigration, and partly (255) to the excess of deaths over the births.

55. The births numbered 7,311, showing a decrease of 638 as compared with those of 1905, and giving a birth rate of 37·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population. Of these 3,682 were males and 3,629 females. The number of illegitimate births was 4,070, 55·6 per cent. of the total birth rate.

56. The deaths registered during the year numbered 7,566, exceeding the births by 255. The death rate, 38·5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, was abnormally high. This is reported by the Poor Law Inspector to be due to the existence during the hot season of a widespread epidemic of gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea amongst children, which was very fatal. Of the 7,566 deaths, 4,480 were those of children under the age of five years, and 3,071 those of infants under the age of one year.

57. Eight hundred and fifty-three marriages were registered during 1906. Of those married 352 males and 348 females were unable to sign their names.

VIII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

58. The average barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station for 1906, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea level, was, at 9 a.m., 29·956 inches, and at 3 p.m., 28·886 inches. The highest pressure recorded was at 9 a.m. on the 17th February, viz., 30·073 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. on 14th October, 29·692 inches. These records are very similar to those for the past ten years, *i.e.*, from 1897 to 1906 inclusive, when the average barometric pressure was, at 9 a.m., 29·562 inches and at 3 p.m. 29·892 inches, and the highest average pressure at 9 a.m. was 30·024 inches and the lowest at 3 p.m., 29·819 inches.

59. The average maximum temperature for 1906 was 84·6° F., and the average minimum temperature 75·9° F., the maximum extreme 89·7° F., on the 27th May and 18th September, and the minimum extreme 62·8° F. on 25th January. The mean average temperature for the year was 80·2° F., and the average range 19·7° F. The average velocity of the wind for the year was 10·7 miles per hour. For the past ten years the average maximum temperature was 84·2° F., and the average minimum 75·8° F. The maximum extreme was 85·4° F., and the minimum

extreme 73·8° F. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 79·9° F., the average range 17·5° F. The average velocity of the wind 9·8 miles per hour.

60. The average rainfall for the year from 189 stations was 70·70 inches, as compared with 54·59 inches from 197 stations for the previous year, and with 62·48 inches from an average of 115 stations for the past sixty years, *i.e.*, 1847 to 1906 inclusive.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

61. The railway, which had for some time ceased working, was acquired by the Barbados Light Railway Company, to whom a subsidy of £2,000 a year was by the Act No. 6 of 1906 guaranteed for ten years.

62. The plantations-in-aid scheme, under which the Imperial grant of £80,000 in aid of the sugar industry has been administered in the interests of the sugar plantations since the year 1902, has now come to an end, and its place has been taken by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, which is managed by seven directors, five appointed by the Legislature, and one by the Agricultural Society, the Colonial Secretary being *ex-officio* the chairman. The amount transferred to the bank at the commencement of its operations was £96,360 5s. 8d.

63. An attempt is being made to develop, or rather to explore, the oil resources of the island by an application of the Hon. A. C. Ponsonby for an Order under the Oil Mines Act of 1904. This Order requires the sanction of the Legislature, which will no doubt in due course be given, as it is very desirable in the interest of all that some measures should be taken to ascertain the actual value of this asset of the Colony.

64. The news of the terrible disaster which befel the Island of Jamaica in January last was received here with the deepest concern. A grant of £2,000 was made by the Legislature in aid of the sufferers, and at a public meeting subscription lists were opened by which a further sum of £704 18s. 9d. was contributed.

65. References have been made throughout this report to the effects resulting from the emigration of labourers to Panama under contract to work in the Canal zone. About 10,000 men have emigrated under contract, and probably some 2,000 more have gone independently, but a large majority of these have in due course returned to the Colony. This considerable exodus of labourers has naturally to some extent upset the previously existing conditions of labour here, but there can be but little doubt that in an island with such a superabundant population any temporary difficulties of this nature will in due course adjust

themselves. Meanwhile it is evident that the opportunity of employment on the Canal works afforded to the people has effected a marked improvement in the conditions of the peasantry of the island. Since the establishment in August, 1906, of a money order system with the Canal zone a sum of £35,575 has been remitted to the Colony by this means, and the sums now being sent by emigrants to their relatives and friends here amount to some £4,500 or £5,000 a month. The Harbour Master also reports that the 3,500 emigrants who returned to the Colony from Panama in 1906 brought with them sums amounting in the aggregate to £18,800.

66. Notwithstanding the high death-rate, to which attention has been previously called, the health of the island was good, and tourist and less transient visitors continued to arrive in large numbers throughout the year. If from the number of deaths is deducted the infantile mortality, for which there was special cause, and which was probably aggravated by, if not entirely due to, poverty and ignorance of hygienic principles among the lower orders, it will be seen that the death-rate of the rest of the population was only 15·6 per thousand. It is beyond dispute that Barbados, with its equable climate, its pure air and abundant water supply, its unfailing ocean breeze, and surrounded by the most beautiful of tropic seas, affords exceptional advantages as a health resort, and this fact is becoming from year to year more fully recognized by the residents in the neighbouring colonies and the adjacent continent.

S. W. KNAGGS,

Acting Governor.

Government House,

Barbados,

31st August, 1907.

APPENDIX A

REVENUE.

Head.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	118,854	127,950	9,096	—
Port and Harbour Dues ...	3,060	3,253	193	—
Excise	27,062	28,127	1,065	—
Licences	4,019	4,086	67	—
Police Tax	3,724	3,760	36	—
Fees and Fines, &c. ...	5,307	4,538	—	769
Post Office	7,690	8,553	863	—
Water Works	10,295	11,705	1,410	—
Other Heads of Service ...	10,285	10,837	552	—
Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture.	1,995	1,895	—	100
Total	192,291	204,704	13,282	869

APPENDIX B.

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	9,077	13,646	4,569	—
Post Office	7,003	7,276	273	—
Legal	12,920	12,615	—	305
Police	22,149	22,229	80	—
Ecclesiastical	10,864	10,803	—	61
Education	17,439	16,863	—	576
Medical Departments ...	16,386	16,392	6	—
Volunteer Force	906	841	—	65
Water Works	26,350	26,314	—	36
Pensions	7,703	6,629	—	1,074
Subsidies, &c.	10,740	9,413	—	1,327
Public Works Recurrent ...	2,967	4,198	1,231	—
Other Heads	36,428	38,797	2,369	—
Total	180,932	186,016	8,528	3,444

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE REVENUE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	21,811	22,746	26,569	23,707	22,707
Christ Church ...	2,639	2,836	4,392	4,525	4,717
St. Philip ...	3,934	3,796	5,374	4,862	5,275
St. George ...	2,562	2,595	3,813	3,819	3,843
St. John ...	2,244	2,266	3,125	3,052	3,301
St. Thomas ...	1,505	1,520	2,575	2,692	2,762
St. Joseph ...	1,356	1,376	2,363	2,346	2,241
St. Andrew ...	1,151	1,147	2,108	2,331	2,345
St. James ...	1,408	1,431	2,678	3,048	2,984
St. Lucy ...	2,011	1,883	2,671	2,623	3,080
St. Peter ...	1,951	1,892	2,807	2,704	3,147
Total ...	42,572	43,488	58,475	55,709	56,402

APPENDIX D.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	20,407	20,797	24,146	22,430	21,656
Christ Church ...	2,630	2,542	4,172	4,378	4,507
St. Philip ...	3,325	3,363	4,885	4,357	5,344
St. George ...	2,261	2,606	3,881	3,791	3,718
St. John ...	2,051	2,119	3,016	3,006	3,305
St. Thomas ...	1,490	1,437	2,527	2,684	2,476
St. Joseph ...	1,171	1,329	2,353	2,386	2,246
St. Andrew ...	1,122	1,179	2,260	2,211	2,428
St. James ...	1,405	1,421	2,664	2,715	3,038
St. Lucy ...	2,003	1,909	2,590	2,596	2,950
St. Peter ...	1,718	1,632	2,644	2,553	2,553
Total ...	39,583	40,334	55,138	53,107	54,221

APPENDIX .

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR THE
LAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	872,679	821,618	1,069,312	1,042,562	1,192,328
Exports (including Transit Trade.)	592,464	552,891	860,982	935,844	932,966
Total value of Trade.	1,465,143	1,374,509	1,930,294	1,978,406	2,125,294

APPENDIX F.

ARTICLES IMPORTED INTO BARBADOS AND RE-EXPORTED.
COMPARING THE YEARS 1905 AND 1906.

Articles.	1905.	1906	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Arrowroot... ..	487,191	460,013	—	27,178
Bacon and Hams... ..	26,314	14,255	—	2,059
Beef, salted or pickled	363,815	506,550	142,735	—
Bran and Pollard... ..	103,475	149,919	45,444	—
Bread	31,978	22,785	—	9,193
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Bricks	6,000	3,000	—	3,000
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Butter	66,650	64,190	—	2,460
Oleomargarine and compounds... ..	31,121	45,339	14,218	—
Candles	4,185	6,865	2,680	—
Cocoa	580,574	45,750	—	534,824
Coffee	208,984	41,622	—	167,362
Copper and Brass, &c. (old)	103,596	171,380	—	67,784
Corn	666,123	696,811	35,688	—
Cotton	46,000	—	—	46,000
	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.
Fish, dried, salted, or smoked	13,687	15,932	2,245	—
	brls.	brls.	brls.	brls.
Do., pickled	1,108	1,263	155	—
Flour, Wheat or Rye	16,487	14,695	—	1,792
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Grain, unenumerated	143,903	154,472	10,569	—
Hay and Straw	162,622	74,207	—	88,415
Lard	104,825	67,160	—	37,665

ARTICLES IMPORTED AND RE-EXPORTED—*cont.*

Articles.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
Liquors, Malt, in wood ...	hhds. 600	hhds. 299	hhds. —	hhds. 301
" " in bottles...	doz. qts. 8,671	doz. qts. 13,869	doz. qts. 5,198	doz. qts. —
" Spirits ...	glns. 29,627	glns. 17,667	glns. —	glns. 11,960
" Wines ...	1,802	8,910	7,108	—
Manures ...	tons. 219	tons. 1,960	tons. 1,741	tons. —
Oats ...	lbs. 354,691	lbs. 346,713	lbs. —	lbs. 7,978
Oilmeal and Oilcake ...	152,399	135,072	—	17,327
Petroleum...	glns. 165,030	glns. 39,074	glns. —	glns. 125,956
Pork, salted or pickled ...	lbs. 199,234	lbs. 158,493	lbs. —	lbs. 40,741
Rice ...	1,954,359	1,646,510	—	307,849
Soap ...	738,091	676,492	—	61,599
Tobacco ...	41,692	22,569	—	19,123

APPENDIX G.

TABLE SHOWING IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS, 1897 TO 1906.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1897 ...	108,835	86,159
1898 ...	115,162	116,669
1899 ...	79,243	110,865
1900 ...	77,843	146,689
1901 ...	80,434	135,765
1902 ...	81,186	122,273
1903 ...	78,177	135,456
1904 ...	75,749	249,000
1905 ...	83,581	276,095
1906 ...	91,904	290,784

APPENDIX H.

COMPARATIVE SHIPPING RETURN FOR THE YEARS 1905 AND 1906 (VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED).

Description.	1905.				1906.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers ...	835	51	1,498,814.	75,012	831	54	1,533,029	85,742	—	3	34,215	10,730	4	—	—	—
Sailing Vessels	1,175	170	96,173	30,788	1,169	148	117,708	26,852	—	—	21,535	—	6	22	—	3,936
Total ..	2,010	221	1,594,987	105,800	2,000	202	1,650,737	112,594	—	3	55,750	10,730	10	22	—	3,936

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED FROM 1902 TO 1906.

	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.	
	Ships.		Tonnage.		Ships.		Tonnage.		Ships.	
Total entered and cleared ...	1,745	1,419,339	1,818	1,388,403	2,240	1,687,641	2,231	1,700,787	2,202	1,763,331

APPENDIX I.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1905 AND 1906.

Nationality.	1905.		1906.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British...	2,010	1,594,987	2,000	1,650,737	—	55,750	10	—
American...	28	13,996	24	12,630	—	—	4	1,366
Dutch...	105	7,625	102	12,698	—	5,073	3	—
Danish...	2	418	4	812	2	394	—	—
French...	12	854	4	196	—	—	8	658
Italian...	14	30,956	7	3,718	—	—	7	27,238
Venezuelan...	5	492	2	90	—	—	3	402
Russian...	4	1,292	2	522	—	—	2	770
Swedish...	2	442	—	—	—	—	2	442
Norwegian...	32	32,702	49	66,756	17	34,054	—	—
German...	8	10,650	2	3,828	—	—	6	6,822
Belgian...	2	5,300	4	10,952	2	5,652	—	—
Portuguese...	7	1,073	2	392	—	—	5	681
Totals...	2,231	1,700,787	2,202	1,763,331	21	100,923	50	38,379

BARBADOS, 1906-7.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

APPENDIX J.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES CROPS AND THEIR VALUES (PACKAGE INCLUDED) FROM 1897-1906.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.				Total Va. i.e.	
		Hhds.	£	s.	d.	£	£
1897 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	56,397	at	7	10	0	422,977
	" Dry ...	2,203	"	11	2	0	24,453
	Molasses ...	Puns.					86,094
		37,432	"	2	6	0	
1898 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	52,009	"	8	0	0	416,072
	Molasses ...	1,566	"	12	0	0	18,792
		Puns.					92,416
		34,123	"	2	14	2	
1899 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	43,907	"	10	0	0	439,070
	Molasses ...	2,312	"	15	0	0	34,680
		Puns.					109,252
		29,134	"	3	15	0	
1900 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	48,583	"	10	0	0	485,730
	Molasses ...	1,998	"	12	0	0	23,976
		Puns.					148,936
		37,234	"	4	0	0	
1901 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	61,074	"	8	10	0	519,129
	Molasses ...	3,936	"	11	10	0	45,264
		Puns.					143,884
		46,043	"	3	2	6	
1902 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	50,406	"	5	15	0	289,834
	Molasses ...	1,681	"	7	0	0	11,767
		Puns.					119,728
		42,760	"	2	16	0	
1903 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	35,170	"	6	12	0	232,122
	Molasses ...	3,453	"	8	0	0	27,624
		Puns.					136,548
		30,344	"	4	10	0	
1904 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	61,079	"	6	16	0	415,337
	Molasses ...	2,525	"	9	17	0	24,871
		Puns.					144,193
		45,061	"	3	4	0	
1905 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	45,469	"	9	10	0	431,955
	Molasses ...	1,628	"	12	0	0	19,536
		Puns.					177,205
		39,379	"	4	10	0	
1906 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	Hhds.					
	" Dry ...	55,879	"	6	0	0	335,274
	Molasses ...	1,984	"	8	0	0	15,872
		Puns.					214,893
		61,398	"	3	10	0	

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
514	British Guiana	1905-1906
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905-1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate... ..	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast... ..	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 585.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1907-8.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 544.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729-49.] *Price 2½d.*

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No. 585.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 544.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Barbados,
1st October, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1907-8 together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

BASIL BLACKWOOD,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1907-1908.

FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the year 1907-8 was £209,817 and the expenditure was £188,296, giving a surplus of £21,521. The Treasury balance at the close of the financial year was thus brought up to £58,165.

2. The revenue for the year 1907-8 exceeded the revenue for the previous financial year by £5,114, while the expenditure of the former year exceeded the expenditure of the latter year by £2,281, giving a net increase of revenue over expenditure, as compared with the previous year, of £2,833.

3. The following table shows the revenue for the last five years as compared with the expenditure:—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
1903-4	...	185,353	...	221,801*
1904-5	...	185,056	...	183,297
1905-6	...	192,291	...	180,932
1906-7	...	204,704	...	186,016
1907-8	...	209,817	...	188,296

4. The principal increases in 1907-8, as compared with 1906-7, occurred under the following heads:—

				Increase.
				£
Customs	...	...	...	1,771
Excise	...	...	...	2,166
Waterworks	...	...	...	829

5. The total revenue derived from Customs receipts in the year 1907 was £129,722. The increase shown above is to some extent deceptive, owing to the fact that the amount repaid in drawbacks during the year 1907 exceeded by £2,464 the amount paid out under this head in the preceding year.

The net receipts for the two years were:—

				£
1906	...	...	...	118,590
1907	...	...	...	117,995

which shows a decrease on the net Customs revenue of £595. This decrease is due to the fact that the additional duty of 20 per cent. which was collected during the whole of the year

* Of this amount £39,492 represents the balance with interest of the Imperial Free Grant of £80,000 in aid of the sugar industry.

1906 was reduced by one-half after the first quarter of 1907, and partly due to the fact that duties to the value of £1,000 payable in 1907 were not paid until after March, 1908, and consequently do not appear in the accounts for the former year.

6. The continued improvement in the Customs revenue is mainly attributable, as in the preceding year, to increased receipts from import duties. The improvement of the revenue derived from excise is remarkable, and I am glad to say has not been accompanied by any corresponding increase in the statistics of crime.

7. The increase under both the above heads is mainly due to the large sums of money transmitted fortnightly to Barbados by labourers recruited in this Colony for service on the Panama Canal Works. Statistics dealing with this important factor will be given below.

8. The improvement in the receipts of the Water Department is principally due to the sale of water to the shipping.

The following table shows that the facilities offered, the excellence of the supply, and the moderate price charged, have had good practical results:—

Revenue from sale of Water.				
£				
1903-4	...	...	...	2,885
1904-5	...	...	...	2,527
1905-6	...	...	...	2,899
1906-7	...	...	...	3,753
1907-8	...	...	...	4,368

9. The revenue of the 11 parishes, including the Legislative grant of £5,450 for road purposes, was £60,171, and the expenditure was £55,624.

10. The 20 per cent. additional duty which had been imposed on the 21st October, 1902, was reduced to 10 per cent. as from April the 1st, 1907, but no innovation affecting the general system of taxation was introduced.

EXPENDITURE.

11. The principal excesses of expenditure during 1907-8, as compared with the previous financial year, occurred under the following heads:—

Increases on the figures of 1906-7				
£				
Customs	...	...	...	2,466
Subsidies and Grants	...	...	...	2,436
Waterworks	...	...	...	1,277

The excess shown under the head "Customs" represents the sums refunded as drawbacks, and was paid principally in respect of coal.

The excess under "Subsidies and Grants" has been occasioned by the payment of the sum due to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company under their contract which came into operation on the 29th August, 1907.

The excess under "Waterworks" is due to the investment of £1,050 for the Launch Renewal Fund and £300 for building in connection with the water supply.

12. At the close of the financial year the public debt of the Colony stood at £404,900, but the sinking fund accumulations stood at £60,153, and there was an unexpended balance of £24,153 from the loan negotiated in 1895 for water-works construction. After due allowance is made in respect of these balances the public debt stands at £319,909.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

13. The value of the imports during the year 1907 was £1,271,529, and the value of the exports was £935,255, giving an excess of imports over exports to the value of £336,274.

14. The following is a comparative table for the last two years showing the countries from which imports chiefly came, with the value of the respective importations:—

Countries.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
United Kingdom ...	482,116	558,148
United States ...	404,334	460,725
Canada ...	86,673	101,943
British West Indies ...	84,792	58,237
British Guiana ...	35,779	46,002
East Indies ...	33,546	1,232
Foreign West Indies...	15,016	8,917
France ...	12,347	53
Brazil ...	3,762	16,035
Newfoundland ...	5,232	9,655
Other places ...	28,731	10,582
	<u>£1,192,328</u>	<u>£1,271,529</u>

15. It will be seen that:—

44 per cent.	of imports	came from	United Kingdom.
36	"	"	United States.
8 $\frac{3}{4}$	"	"	Canada.
9	"	"	West Indies.
2 $\frac{1}{4}$	"	"	Other places.

16. The total value of the export trade was less by £15,579 than its value in the previous year. The decrease is made up as follows:—

	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£
Sugar	—	90,736
Molasses	18,027	—
Cotton, raw	57,356	—
Rum	—	14
Minor Products	—	212
	£75,383	£90,962
		75,383
		£15,579

17. The heavy decrease in the value of exports is partly due to the short sugar crop consequent on a poor rainfall and partly due to the increased manufacture of fancy syrups, included under the head "molasses." The conversion of sugar into molasses led to a considerable increase under the latter head.

18. The principal change indicated by the above figures is an increase of trade with Canada, as compared with the United States of America. This improvement is due to the fact that Canada now offers the best market to Barbados sugar.

19. The following table in which the figures for 1906 are contrasted with the figures for 1907 illustrates the change in question:—

Total value of imports from—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Canada	86,673	101,943
United States	404,334	460,725

Total value of exports of Barbados products to—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Canada	243,224	318,671
United States	149,586	50,107

20. It will be seen that imports from Canada increased during the year 1907 by $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., while imports from the United States increased during the same period by $13\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Exports to Canada increased by 31 per cent.

Exports to United States decreased by $66\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

21. The following table gives the value of articles imported from Canada and contrasts the figures with those of the previous year, distinguishing between the articles which show an increase from those which show a decrease:—

Articles which show an increase.

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Butter	1,071	1,630
Cheese	1,088	1,372
Fish (salted or pickled) ...	17,487	20,643
Flour	4,302	7,179
Grain	1,473	3,445
Oats	1	2,243
Lumber (white pine) ...	16,792	27,630
Shingles	6,182	9,136
Iron nails	232	1,092
Joiners' work	59	756

Articles which show a decrease.

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Beef and Pork	1,091	766
Pitch Pine Lumber	3,763	—
Hay	1,689	682
Sulphate of Ammonia ...	23,352	17,709
Staves	1,856	1,276

22. It must be noted, however, that an appreciable quantity of Canadian goods were in all probability imported via New York, and have figured in the returns as being of American origin. This is likely to be the case with oats, though in 1906 only 300 lbs. were imported from Canada direct. An effort is now being made to ensure that the true country of origin is declared on the import entry.

23. The staple products of the Island for 1907 were estimated to value £576,756 or £15,369 less than in the previous year. This diminution occurred in spite of the great increase in the production of raw cotton which nearly doubled the production of 1906, and which was more than treble its value.

The figures for the two years are as follows:—

	1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Sugar (dry)	Hogsheads. 1,984	£ 15,872	Hogsheads. 2,482	£ 22,338
" muscovado	55,879	335,274	35,270	238,072
Molasses	Puns. 61,398	214,893	Puns. 62,112	232,920
	Gallons. 1,037		Gallons. 854	
Rum	Lbs. 488,473	78	Lbs. 947,140	64
Cotton (raw)		26,006		83,362
Total	—	592,123	—	576,756

24. The following table illustrates the extent to which Canada has replaced the United States of America as the market for Barbados sugar:—

	1907.		1906.	
	Hogsheads.	Values.	Hogsheads.	Values.
United States of America	2,465	£ 16,639	20,116	£ 121,096
Canada	23,553	164,293	16,118	99,890

25. 62,112 puncheons of molasses were exported, of the value of £232,920. Of this quantity 54,720 puncheons, value £205,200, were exported to British North America, as against 6,602 puncheons, of the value of £24,758, exported to the United States of America.

26. There are no substantial fluctuations to be noted in connection with the minor products.

27. The transit trade, which is one of considerable importance, continues to develop. The following table shows its growth during the last five years:—

Value during—					£
1903	...	...	...	...	133,051
1904	...	...	...	...	233,304
1905	...	...	...	...	239,015
1906	...	...	...	...	303,647
1907	...	...	...	...	321,515

SHIPPING.

28. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships that entered the port of Bridgetown during 1907:—

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
453	812,209	682	57,848	1,135	870,057

Compared with the previous year 35 more ships entered the port in 1907, though their aggregate tonnage was less by 11,471.

29. The nationality of the ships entering the port was as follows:—

	Number.	Tonnage.
British	1,016	788,509
Norwegian	31	34,032
Danish	13	20,716
Dutch	46	3,388
Others	29	23,412
	1,135	870,057

30. The coaling business of the port continues to increase, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Year.	Number of Steamers coaled.	Number of Tons taken.
1903	73	12,000
1904	96	16,000
1905	121	20,000
1906	228	46,692
1907	306	70,531

EXCISE.

31. The duty collected on rum during 1907 was £29,659. The amount collected during that year for licences amounted to £423, thus bringing the receipts from rum made in the Island to a total of £30,082. In 1906, duty and licences taken together amounted to £28,091.

The rate of duty is 3s. per proof gallon, while the licence is fixed at a half-penny per gallon of rum sold.

32. In April, 1907, an additional duty, imposed on imported spirits, was reduced by half, while the duty on rum locally made remained the same. The reduction of duty on the imported spirits does not seem, however, to have acted unfavourably on the local manufacture.

AGRICULTURE.

33. The sugar crop of the Island for the year 1907 was 35,270 hogsheads of muscovado, 2,482 hogsheads of vacuum-pan crystals and 62,112 puncheons of molasses, of the total value of £493,330. This was less than the previous year by 20,111 hogsheads of sugar and more than the previous year by 714 puncheons of molasses, and the value of this crop showed a decrease of £72,708 under that of 1906. The crop of sugar and its by-product, molasses, was apparently less than the average for the past sixty years, which is 49,950 hogsheads, by 12,198 hogsheads: but this comparison is fallacious under the present circumstances, as a considerable quantity of the juice of the sugar cane instead of being manufactured into

sugar with molasses as a by-product, was manufactured directly into "fancy" molasses: the result being that the exports of the molasses were increased at the expense of the muscovado sugar. As separate accounts are not kept in the shipment of ordinary or "choice" molasses and "fancy" molasses it is impossible to give more than a very rough estimate of the crop expressed in terms of previous returns, when molasses was solely a by-product. Such an approximate estimate gives the crop as equivalent to 45,500 hogsheads of sugar and 40,700 puncheons of ordinary ("choice") molasses, and shows a decrease as regards sugar on the average of the past sixty years of 4,450 hogsheads. Under the preferential treatment accorded by Canada to British Colonies, the exports of sugar to the Dominion continued to increase in quantity and value, and those to the United States of America to diminish. Thus while the exports of sugar to Canada in 1906 amounted to 16,118 hogsheads of the value £99,890, in 1907 they amounted to 23,553 hogsheads of the value of £164,293: and while the exports of sugar to the United States in 1906 amounted to 20,116 hogsheads of the value £121,096, those in 1907 diminished to 2,465 hogsheads of the value £16,639, showing the rapidly growing importance of the Canadian market over that of the United States. The sugar exports to Great Britain in 1906 amounted to 20,465 hogsheads of the value £123,176, those in 1907 to 9,872 hogsheads of the value £66,910.

34. The rainfall in December, 1906, and January, 1907, was sufficient to secure a satisfactory stand of young sugar canes: during February to May it was small, and the canes made no progress in these months. The rainy season set in in June, but, with exception of October, at no time during the year were the rainfall conditions satisfactory, and in November a drought set in which lasted to the end of the reaping season. The crop for 1908 is expected to amount to 29,275 hogsheads of sugar and 50,000 puncheons of molasses (ordinary "choice" and "fancy"); that is 5,995 hogsheads of sugar less, and 12,112 puncheons of molasses less than the previous year. This falling off of the crop is due partly to a diminished amount and less favourable distribution of the rainfall, and partly to the increased area of land planted in cotton. The sugar crop of 1908, however, has practically all been sold at prices some 30 per cent. in advance of those of 1907: and this result will tend to neutralise the effect of the diminution in the crop.

35. The area planted in cotton in 1907 was 6,935 acres, which is estimated to yield 1,387,000 lbs. of lint, valued at £104,025.

The average price for the season 1906-7 varied from 20 pence to 26 pence per pound: the price for the season 1907-8 has varied from 13 pence to 20 pence. It is estimated that the area planted for the season 1908-9 amounts, at present, to 3,670 acres, a decrease of area closely associated with the fall in prices.

The work of the Imperial Department of Agriculture continues to be of great value to the Colony. The West Indian Agricultural Conference, which was held in Bridgetown in January, 1908, was attended by delegates from all parts of the West Indies, and a number of valuable papers were read. During 1907 and 1908 conferences were held between the department and cotton growers, which have done much to insure the success of this industry. The local Department of Agriculture, working under the direction of the Imperial Department, have issued useful reports in connection with the agricultural research carried on by them during the period under review.

LEGISLATION.

36. Fifty Acts were passed through the Legislature in 1907. The following are the principal:—

No. 3 of 1907.—An Act for the regulation of the burning of human remains, and to enable burial authorities to establish crematoria.

This Act has been amended by the Cremation (Amendment) Act, 1907.

No. 7 of 1907.—An Act to establish a Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank in the Island. Under this Act a sum of £98,000, being the share that fell to Barbados of the Imperial Free Grant together with the accrued interest, was transferred to the Bank established by this Act for the purpose of continuing the system of making advances to sugar producers, which had been in force from 1902-1906 under the Plantations-in-Aid Act.

No. 9 of 1907.—An Act to make further provision for giving effect to the recommendations made by a conference held with regard to Quarantine in the West Indies. By this Act a Central Quarantine Authority for the West Indian Colonies adhering to the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention of 1904 was created. The Authority has the power to interpret the meaning of phrases and to decide whether any disease occurring in territory of any one of the Colonies parties to the Convention, as to the nature of which there may be a conflict of opinion, is an infectious disease within the scope of the Convention.

No. 15 of 1907.—An Act to impose additional duties of Customs in aid of revenue. This Act imposed for the period of one year, from April 1st, 1907, to March 31st, 1908, a surtax of one-tenth of the Customs duties and repealed the Revenue-in-Aid Act 1902, which imposed a surtax of one-fifth of the said duties.

No. 25 of 1907.—An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to lunatics.

EDUCATION.

37. The total expenditure on education during the year 1907-8 was £17,117.

38. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but four Island scholarships are annually awarded to the students at the college, each of the value of £40 a year, and tenable for two years. There are 18 students on its roll.

39. The statistics relating to the higher grade schools which receive grants from the Treasury are as follows:—

Name of School.	Govern- ment Grant.	Pupils' Fees, &c.	Number of Pupils on Roll.
<i>Boys.</i>	£	£	£
Harrison College	1,000	2,058	165
The Lodge School	500	722	53
Combermere School	300	886	130
The Coleridge School	100	164	25
The Alleyne School	100	75	12
The Parry School... ..	100	112	13
The Christ Church Foundation School.	Nil	134	49
<i>Girls.</i>			
Queen's College	400	763	84
The Alexandra School	125	253	37
Total	2,625	5,167	568

The primary schools, which numbered 164, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attend- ance.	Govern- ment Grant.
Church of England	130	20,696	12,281	8,185
Wesleyan	18	2,972	1,676	1,180
Moravian	16	2,271	1,329	948
Total	164	25,939	15,286	10,313

40. Any report on the educational system of the Island would be incomplete without a reference to what is termed the Barbados Scholarship.

In order to further develop the high educational interests of the Island, and to encourage young persons who may show promise in the prosecution of their studies, by enabling them

to complete their studies at an institution for higher education in Europe or America, four scholarships called the Barbados Scholarships, each of the annual value of one hundred and seventy-five pounds—one to be competed for annually—have been established by the Legislature. The scholarship is tenable during membership of the Institution for a period not exceeding four years at any university or college in Europe or Canada, or at any Agricultural or Technical College in Europe or America that may be approved by the Education Board.

A boy in each year is thus enabled, therefore, by winning exhibitions to pass from an elementary to a second grade and thence to a first grade school and to close his educational career at an University.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITAL.

41. There is only one hospital in Barbados. It is situated in Bridgetown, and is supported exclusively by the Government. It is not directly under Government control, but is governed by a court of trustees and directors, of which the composition is as follows:—

6 Ex-Officio Members.

3 Members of the Legislative Council, nominated by the President of the Council.

7 Members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Speaker.

2 Life Members.

—
18 Total.
—

The Court of Directors delegate the ordinary management of the hospital to a house committee of 12 members. 4,489 persons were treated in the hospital during the year, of whom 355 died. 21,906 out-patients were treated during the same period.

The total expenditure on the institution during the year 1907 was £7,082 10s.

PRISONS.

42. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison during 1907 was 217—137 men and 80 women. These figures show a decrease on the statistics of 1906, which gave an average of 182 men and 91 women. These favourable conditions are largely attributable to the absence on steady employment of 17,000 men now engaged on the Panama Canal Works.

The expenditure on the institution was £4,572, less by £317 than that of the previous year, and represented an expenditure of £20 8s. 0½*d.* per head. The number of prisoners committed for penal imprisonment during 1907 was 1,874, being 416 less than in 1906. Against 1,115 of these previous convictions were recorded. The discipline of the prison has been good.

43. There were 42 admissions during 1907 to the Government Industrial School for boys, and 31 discharges, leaving the number remaining in the institution on the 31st of December, 1907, at 125. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the school was £1,792 4s. 3*d.* The boys are chiefly employed on agricultural labour in the grounds attached to the institution, the principal produce being sugar and cotton, and the net value of the receipts was £1,118. The actual cost of the institution was, therefore, £674, equal to £5 12s. 4*d.* per head of the average number of inmates.

44. The question of the establishment of a reformatory for girls has not yet been finally dealt with, as the site proposed by the Government did not meet with the approval of the Legislature.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

45. At the beginning of 1907, 361 inmates were in residence. During the year, 79 additional patients were admitted: 14 were discharged as cured, 3 as relieved, while 53 patients died. The daily average number of lunatics was 359. The expenditure on the asylum was £5,384 1s. 7*d.*, but against this must be set the net profits derived from the asylum farm, which amounted to £352.

LAZARETTO.

46. At the beginning of 1907, 126 inmates were in residence, 63 of each sex. During 1907, 14 patients were admitted. Twenty patients died during the year, 10 of each sex.

Of the above total, 55 patients suffered from anæsthetic leprosy, while 58 were tuberculous. It has not been the practice to discharge patients because the disease is arrested. Two patients escaped to neighbouring colonies during the year, but one was repatriated and re-confined. As lepers are not compulsorily segregated unless they come on the rates, the above figures do not give an exact idea of the prevalence of the disease in the Island. Once in the lazaretto no leper can leave except by order of the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

POOR RELIEF.

47. The parochial authorities control poor relief. Each parish maintains an almshouse and a medical officer. A total sum of £17,561 was expended during the year 1907-8 on this service.

THE SAVINGS BANK.

48. The popularity of the savings bank continues to increase. On March 31st, 1908, there were 17,793 depositors on the books, an increase of 1,600 on the previous year. The total amount standing to the credit of the depositors was £292,900, being an increase of £30,398 on the figures 1906-7. The rate of interest is $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. There were 213 Friendly Societies registered on March 31st, 1908. During the year 1907 there were 193 Friendly Societies on the register, only one of which has had an existence of more than 20 years. Of these 193 societies two were moribund, consequently only 191 societies are dealt with in the following paragraph.

These societies had on their registers 38,940 members and 99,787 dependants, or a grand total of 138,727, some dependent on their funds for sickness and for all of whose burials they were responsible. These figures show an increase on the previous year of 15,033 members and dependants inclusive.

49. In 1907, the members and dependants of the 191 societies were nearly 70 per cent. of the estimated population. For 1906 the percentage was 47·7. This tendency towards the reckless increase of dependants on the funds of the Friendly Societies requires to be closely watched.

POST OFFICE.

50. During 1907, 1,445 mails were received from abroad, and 1,423 mails were despatched. The largest number were received from the following places:—

Brazil and Buenos Ayres	...	157
Great Britain	...	100
United States of America	...	123
Saint Lucia	...	87
British Guiana	...	84

51. A total of 948,046 postal articles were received from abroad, while 912,265 postal articles were despatched.

52. The following table shows the destination of the larger number of mails:—

United States of America	...	131
Trinidad	...	117
British Guiana	...	114
Saint Lucia	...	101
Dominica	...	90
Antigua	...	77

The following lines carried mails during the year:—

Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (Southampton).
Harrison Line (Liverpool).
Leyland Line (Liverpool).
Scrutton's Direct Line (London)

Glasgow Line (Glasgow).

Armstrong Line (United States of America and West Indies).

Booth and Red Cross Line (United States of America and Brazil).

Quebec Steamship Company (United States of America and West Indies).

Hamburg-American and Sloman Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).

Lamport and Holt (United States of America and Brazil).

Lloyd Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).

Pickford and Black (Canada and West Indies).

East Asiatic (Europe and West Indies).

Money orders were issued to the value of £20,428, while British postal orders were issued to the value of £3,368. Money Orders to the total value of £84,924 were drawn upon the Colony in 1907, and British postal orders to the value of £5,012 were also paid.

The revenue derived from the Post Office in 1907 was £8,468, and the expenditure £6,876.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

53. A study of the statistics of crime for 1907 gives satisfactory results. The improvement shown is due in some measures to the better condition of the working classes, owing to the circulation of money earned in Parama, and also, it may be supposed, to the absence of many individuals who, unless they had found scope for their energies on the canal works, might, perhaps, have drifted into crime.

54. Eight thousand eight hundred and thirty-six persons were convicted and punished summarily during the year 1907, and thirty-three persons were convicted and punished on indictment. These figures give a percentage of 4.47 of the estimated population convicted of crime. The percentage is satisfactory if regard is to be had to the fact that a very large number of convictions are in respect of trivial offences, such, for instance, as using bad language or quarrelling on the highway, which, though requiring firm repression, are morally of only minor significance.

55. The absence of serious crime is marked. One offence, however, appears to be becoming more prevalent, and that is the wilful destruction of growing canes by fire. It is very difficult to discover the perpetrators of these offences since, owing to the inflammable nature of the crop at certain seasons, it is easily set fire to, while the large area under canes makes

it almost impossible to exercise adequate surveillance, especially by night. A reward of £50 is almost invariably offered for information leading to a conviction, but such information is never forthcoming.

56. During 1907 there were 66 cases of cane fires and only one conviction, a man practically caught red-handed, who was subsequently sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

VITAL STATISTICS.

57. The estimated population on December the 31st, 1906, was 194,518, but the figures upon which this estimate is based are not reliable. No census has been taken since 1891, and no record is kept of persons migrating.

58. During 1907 the birth-rate was 33·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 37·2 for 1906 and 39·8 for 1905. The percentage of illegitimate births continues to be a high one, being 56·9 per cent. of the births recorded.

59. The burials registered numbered 5,236, which is less by 2,330 than in the previous year. The death-rate per 1,000 was 26·9. A regrettable feature of the vital statistics of this Colony is the high infantile mortality, although a slight improvement is shown on the figures of the preceding year. The death-rate of children of one year old and under was 302 per 1,000. This heavy mortality seems to be due to improper feeding of infants, for which ignorance is partly responsible and partly circumstances of deeper origin. The matter has been under careful consideration, and it is to be hoped that the circulation of carefully prepared instructions as to the proper treatment of infants will do something to mitigate the evil pending more radical measures.

METEOROLOGICAL.

60. The average barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station for 1907, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea-level, was at 9 a.m., 29·958 inches, and at 3 p.m., 29·891 inches. The highest pressure recorded was at 9 a.m. on January the 18th, viz., 30·071 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. on October the 18th, 29·763 inches. These records are very similar to those for the ten years, 1897 to 1906, when the average barometric pressure was, at 9 a.m., 29·962 inches, and at 3 p.m., 29·892 inches, and the highest average pressure at 9 a.m. was 30·024 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m., 29·819.

61. The average maximum temperature for 1907 was 84·2 F., and the average minimum temperature 75·9 F., the maximum extreme 88·9 F., on June the 7th, and the minimum extreme 61·4 F., on January the 30th. The mean average temperature for the year was 80·0 F., and the average range 19·5 F. The average velocity of the wind for the year was 11·1 miles per hour. For the ten years 1897 to 1906 inclusive the average maximum temperature was 84·2 F., and the average minimum 75·8 F. The maximum extreme was 85·4 F., and the minimum extreme was 78·8 F. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 79·9 F., the average range 17·5 F., and the average velocity of the wind 9·8 miles per hour.

62. The average rainfall for the year from 178 stations was 47·68 inches, as compared with 70·70 inches from 189 stations for the previous year, and with 62·47 inches from an average of 117 stations for the past sixty years, i.e., 1848 to 1907 inclusive.

GENERAL REMARKS.

63. Reference has been made above to the favourable influence which the development of an ample field for labour within easy reach of Barbados has had upon the Revenue. Up to March 31st, 1908, 16,000 labourers had left this Island for the Panama Canal Works, and the importance, social and economic, of this exodus has been considerable. Any sudden interruption of this outlet such as might be caused by the quarantining of Barbados by the canal zone authorities would soon be felt.

64. Not only are considerable sums transmitted fortnightly through the Post Office, but the returning labourers bring with them large amounts of ready money, which is freely spent in the Island.

65. The following figures show the sums brought home in cash by returning emigrants from Panama during 1907:—

					£
1906	...	...	...	...	18,000
1907	...	...	...	...	26,291

66. The following figures show the amounts of money orders received from the canal zone and paid at Barbados during the same period:—

					£
1906	...	...	...	...	7,508
1907	...	...	...	...	36,889

67. Towards the latter part of 1907 and the beginning of 1908 a few cases of yellow fever were reported, but these were of a somewhat abnormal type, and consequently there was some difference of opinion among medical men as to the correctness of the diagnosis. The health of the Island was otherwise excellent, and it is satisfactory to note that no visitors to the Island were among the victims.

68. The tourist traffic was not quite as large during the year under review as in some previous years. A movement was recently set on foot by private enterprise to develop the social attractions for visitors, and, as a result of a public meeting held in this connection, an application was made to the Government for financial support to a scheme which was submitted. After consideration, however, the Government were of opinion that until increased hotel accommodation was provided it would be premature to exploit the great natural advantages of the Island as a tourist and health resort.

BASIL BLACKWOOD,
Acting Governor.

Government House,
1st October, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from
the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti... ..	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weibaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907-1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907-1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia... ..	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907-1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Sierra Leone	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks and Caicos Islands	Salt Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 556.

BASUTOLAND.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 513.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
March, 1908.



LONDON:
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1908.

[Cd. 3729-20.] *Price 3d.*

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No. 556.

BASUTOLAND.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 513.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,

Johannesburg,

18th November, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from the Resident Commissioner of Basutoland, enclosing the Annual Reports on that territory for the year 1906-7, together with a copy of my reply.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, K.G., G.C.S.I.

&c., &c., &c.

Resident Commissioner's Office.

Maseru,

15th October, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Annual Reports of the Government Secretary, the Assistant Commissioners, and other officers for the year ended 30th June, 1907.

The revenue of Basutoland during the year has exceeded all previous collections, amounting to £111,903 17s. 9d., the principal increase being in hut-tax and Customs.

The expenditure has amounted to £108,832 19s. 4d. The details and comparative revenue and expenditure for the past five years are given in the Government Secretary's report.

In spite of the depression prevailing throughout South Africa, and notwithstanding the complaints of traders as to the dulness of business, the trade conditions in Basutoland as evidenced by the returns of imports and exports have been fairly satisfactory. The Basuto appear to have done well with their produce, especially mealies, mohair, and wool, and native labourers have continued to bring money into the country. In this connection I have to record my impression that a very large proportion of labourers' wages is spent by them before their return to Basutoland. It is impossible to form anything like a reliable estimate of what proportion of their earnings is so spent, but judging by the quantity of newly purchased articles they bring with them it must be considerable.

Vigorous efforts were made in the spring to destroy the swarms of young locusts which either hatched in Mafeteng District or crossed into Basutoland from the Orange River Colony. Separate reports on this campaign against locusts have been submitted. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the swarms were destroyed by the approved method of spraying with a solution of arsenite of soda.

Steps have been taken to encourage the production of good wool by the introduction of well-bred sheep rams, and by additions to the number of dipping stations erected for the use of native sheep owners. I am confident that a steady continuance

of this policy of fostering production of wool and mohair will in time materially tend to the increased prosperity of the country. It is to be regretted that the inferior quality of the grain produced by the natives neutralises the advantages of soil and climate which they enjoy.

The following legislative Proclamations were issued during the year :—

Proclamation No. 20 of 1906.—Extending to Basutoland the Imperial Foreign Enlistment Act of 1870.

Proclamation No. 22 of 1906.—Announcing that the Transvaal Colony and Bechuanaland Protectorate have respectively made due provision for persons resident there to attend the Courts of Basutoland as witnesses.

Notice 107 of 1906.—Notification by the High Commissioner that due provision has been made in Basutoland for compelling the attendance of witnesses resident therein before the Courts of the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Proclamation 27 of 1906.—Further amending the Customs Law with regard to spirits imported into and distilled in Basutoland.

Notice 1 of 1907.—Publishing Order in Council entitled “Inter-Colonial Council South Africa Order in Council,” authorising among other amounts the loan of £90,000 by the Government of Basutoland for the construction of the Maseru Railway, to the Inter-Colonial Council.

Proclamation No. 16 of 1907.—Consolidating and amending the law which is in force in Basutoland relating to Stamp Duties and fees on documents payable by means of stamps.

A report by the Director of the Industrial School at Maseru is attached.

During the year the provisional appointment of an Education officer has been made. I hope this will tend to the increased efficiency of the instruction in the Mission Schools. There has been a further slight falling-off in the number of scholars attending the aided schools.

It is discouraging to note that among the older scholars there appears to be a growing tendency towards impatience of control and discipline. A similar tendency is observable among a certain section of the educated youth of the country who, at times, in contributions to the native press, criticise the Government and its representatives in what appears to be a tone of jealousy and ill-will. The spirit thus exhibited by some native contributors to the local newspapers resembles to a certain extent what I understand to be that expressed in the newspaper utterances of the corresponding class of the population both in India and Egypt. The representatives of this class in Basutoland are not at present either numerous or influential.

The Government Medical Officers' reports show the nature and extent of the hospital and dispensary work that is being done. I trust that the new hospital at Leribe may be opened before the end of December, and I anticipate that it will largely increase the medical and surgical advantages offered to the people.

The judicial returns show a regrettable increase in the number of arrests and convictions for illicit introduction of intoxicating drink. The police do good work in endeavouring to grapple with this demoralising traffic, but liquor can be obtained by natives with great ease in the Orange River Colony and the Cape Colony. Sixty-seven arrests of smugglers were effected, but there is reason to think that by far the greater number of offenders escape uncaught and unpunished.

The reorganisation of the Post and Telegraph offices has been carried out under the advice of an official kindly detached for the purpose by the Postmaster-General of the Cape Colony.

The following are the principal public works completed during the year under report:—

A reservoir holding 300,000 gallons for Maseru water supply.

New dispensary at Maseru hospital.

New stables for officers at Maseru.

New Post Office and Postmaster's Quarters at Morija.

New water supply at Mohales Hoek.

New gaol at Mohales Hoek.

New water supply at Qacha's Nek.

New bridge on Caledon between Basutoland and Orange River Colony (built in co-operation with the Government of the Orange River Colony).

Notwithstanding the numerous existing disputes between chiefs as to land and chieftainship, the internal condition of the country has been peaceful. The Paramount Chief, Letsie, apparently abstains from mischievous interference in the wards of other chiefs, and has not encouraged the intrigues which are so frequently the causes of inter-tribal strife. He and the other chiefs have given the necessary assistance when called on, in the matter of collection of revenue and detection of crime. I trust in time to be able to arouse the chiefs to a more lively sense of their responsibilities with regard to such matters as locust destruction, eradication of burrweed, and scab. Your Excellency's own addresses to Letsie and other chiefs at Mohales Hoek and Leribe upon these and similar subjects cannot fail to have a good effect.

Few of the chiefs seem able to restrain themselves in the matter of strong drink, although they all acquiesce in the wisdom of the restrictions on the introduction of liquor, and on occasion give active assistance in the arrest of brandy

BASUTOLAND, 1906-7.

smugglers. They have, as a rule, exercised their authority over their people with justice and moderation, but a few instances of unjust or venal treatment of cases have been brought to my notice. The adjustment of such cases of appeal is one of the most difficult questions that have to be dealt with by myself or the District Officers and calls for the exercise of special tact and firmness.

The protection of the interests of Basutoland subjects who may have cases in the Courts of the Orange River Colony and Cape Colony also presents peculiar difficulties. The fact that a native is not allowed to sue in such Courts except through the intervention of a law agent, who usually demands a deposit in advance (often exceeding the value of the goods or amount sued for), is a great cause of complaint, and in many cases is prohibitive as regards a native's access to a Court of Justice. During the year I had to forward to Your Excellency the papers in a case wherein the costs of a suit concerning 17 cattle, worth probably £120, amounted to £261; judgment in this particular case was "absolution from the instance."

I would like again to place on record my appreciation of the good work performed by the officers and employees of the Government Service.

I have, &c.,

H. C. SLOLEY,

Resident Commissioner.

His Excellency

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Selborne, P.C., G.C.M.G.,

High Commissioner,

South Africa.

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY'S ANNUAL
REPORT, 1906-7.

Government Secretary's Office,

Maseru,

30th June, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith the usual Annual Reports for Basutoland for the year ending 30th June, 1907, and also the Statistical Returns for the Territory for the same period compiled from these Reports and from other sources. The Customs Returns, however, in compliance with

the custom prevailing throughout South Africa, are for the year ending 31st December, 1906.

The past year has been a welcome change agriculturally from the preceding ones. After a dry spring, plentiful, well-distributed rains fell in September, and continued throughout the year until well into the winter. This cessation of drought and the consequent agricultural prosperity will, I think, be found reflected in most of the returns contained in this Report.

In October, 1906, for the first time for many years, voetganger locusts hatched out in Basutoland, while the Territory was also invaded by large swarms which crossed the border from the Orange River Colony. Energetic measures were taken against them with soap and arsenical sprays, and a very large proportion were destroyed before they got their wings or did much damage. In March, 1907, flying locusts entered the country from the Orange River Colony and did a good deal of damage, but fortunately their arrival so late in the year did not allow of their sweeping off the fast ripening crops, as would have been the case had they made their appearance earlier.

Altogether a sum of £1,897 was spent on the locust campaign in Basutoland.

FINANCIAL.

Revenue has risen from £98,515 to £111,903, while expenditure has increased from £93,333 to £108,832. I attach a comparative return of revenue and expenditure for the last five years :—

Year ending	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
30th June, 1903	101,399 4 2	76,271 12 11
30th June, 1904	106,794 15 8	72,393 18 4
30th June, 1905	97,034 1 6	78,837 8 2
30th June, 1906	98,515 6 3	93,333 13 8
30th June, 1907	111,903 17 9	108,832 19 4

I also attach a Return of the revenue for the year in detail of heads of receipt :—

	£ s. d.
Hut tax	64,870 0 0
Licences	3,948 4 9
Fees of Court	187 18 11
Post Office	3,453 8 9
Miscellaneous	1,532 17 0
Customs	31,432 2 8
Interest	6,479 5 8
Total	<u>£111,903 17 9</u>

Expenditure for the same period £108,832 19s. 4d.

During the period under report hut tax was paid on 63,611 huts, while £1,807 arrear hut tax was received as against £1,811 the previous year. The total current tax shows an increase of some £2,000 over 1905-6.

COMMERCIAL.

Return of Imports and Exports for the last Five Years.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1903 Dutiable Imports	191,019	258,927
1904 Total Imports	298,140	127,057
1905 " "	149,821	164,817
1906 " "	191,701	172,496
1907 " "	242,353	185,155

The Imports and Exports of the Territory certainly show well when compared with last year, both as regards quantity and money value. Grain and produce, though far below what they should be with continuous good seasons, show a great improvement on the previous years of drought. Wheat, maize, and Kafir corn exported show an increase of nearly 100 per cent., while wool and mohair have each increased about 25 per cent. There being no further demand for remounts for the German Government, there is, of course, a heavy falling off under this head.

The following is a table of exports :—

Articles and Livestock.	Quantity in lbs. or No.	Value. £
<i>Livestock—</i>		
Horses	125	3,283
Cattle	272	3,360
Sheep and goats	371	294
All other : Pigs, poultry, &c. —	—	484
<i>Corn, grain and flour—</i>		
Kafir corn	2,644,227	6,780
Maize... ..	21,114,704	47,747
Oats	199,138	681
Wheat	1,770,335	6,538
Flour, wheaten	43,587	277
All other	75,952	223
Hair, Angora	680,947	26,191
<i>Hides and skins—</i>		
Hides, cattle	11,813	326
Skins, sheep and goats	79,977	1,654
Wool, sheep	3,733,776	82,330
Miscellaneous	—	586
„ (imported goods) —	—	4,401
		<u>£185,155</u>

While on the one hand the exports of the year are satisfactory, it is pleasant to be able to report a similar rise in the imports.

I give below a return of the imports, which show an increase of about £50,000.

Articles, &c.	Value.
	£
Animals: Horses, cattle, sheep, &c. ...	2,567
Apparel, slops, &c. ...	15,200
Bags of all sorts ...	7,668
Beads of all sorts ...	1,069
Cotton piece-goods ...	12,871
Cotton manufactures ...	22,146
Food and drink, articles of ...	23,800
Haberdashery and millinery ...	17,581
Hardware and cutlery, fencing material, &c... ..	8,473
Hats and caps ...	1,176
Implements (agricultural) ...	3,940
Leather and leather manufactures (including boots and shoes and saddlery) ...	14,485
Soap of all kinds ...	3,696
Wood, manufactured and unmanufactured ...	4,162
Woollen manufactures (including blankets and shawls) ...	69,790
All other articles of merchandise ...	33,729
Total ...	<u>242,353</u>

The above figures include importations of South African produce from other territories amounting to £29,827.

LICENCES.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General trader ...	168
Hawkers (paid) ...	405
„ (free) ...	203
Mill licence ...	1
Labour Agents ...	298

PASSES.

The return of passes for visiting and labour which I give below seems to suggest some interesting facts and figures regarding the movements of the native population in good years and bad. The year 1905-6 may, I think, be taken as a bad year, while 1906-7, with its plentiful rains, was distinctly a good one. A comparison of the returns of passes for these two years seems to point out that as the population increases and the country fills up the native population is showing a tendency to divide itself into two distinct classes of labour, namely the agriculturist and the mine labourer. It would appear that year in and year out the latter goes to his work at the mines, while, on the other hand, it appears that the native farmer who, in bad years, went out to "miscellaneous" farm and domestic labour, in a good year remains at home and tills his land. Thus it will be seen that while the mine labourers of 1905-6 and 1906-7 show little difference in numbers there is a falling-off of more than 19,000 in farm, domestic and miscellaneous work, while "visitors" remain practically unchanged for both years:—

RETURN OF PASSES IN DETAIL.

Return of Passes Issued.

Districts.	Visiting in Orange River Colony.	Visiting in Cape Colony.	Visiting in Natal.	Transvaal Mines.	Indwe Coal Mines.	O. R. C. Mines.	Jagersfontein Mines.	Railway Con- struction.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscel- laneous Work.	Kimberley Mines.	Johannesburg Municipality	Totals.
Leribe ...	19,780	176	—	6,473	—	—	—	4,022	2,271	18,469	291	—	51,482
Berea ...	4,389	83	—	2,101	—	—	—	2,529	1,807	703	635	—	12,247
M. sem ...	8,835	271	—	7,462	—	1,253	—	62	273	2,270	833	483	21,742
Mafeteng ...	7,574	676	—	1,086	2	164	842	125	4,707	3,367	448	—	18,991
Mohales Hoek ...	1,103	1,009	—	294	3	519	404	—	2,151	2,063	641	—	8,187
Quthing ...	205	3,365	—	51	10	15	88	30	700	1,412	23	—	5,899
Qacha's Nek ...	151	3,267	216	141	13	—	—	10	888	4,596	55	—	9,337
Total ...	42,037	8,847	216	17,608	28	1,951	1,334	6,778	12,797	32,880	2,926	483	127,885

Summary of Passes for Labour.

—	Orange River Colony.	Cape Colony.	Natal.	Trans- vaal.	Farm and Domestic.	Miscel- laneous.	Total.
1905-6...	12,699	3,016	—	14,012	18,802	46,480	95,009
1906-7...	9,961	2,994	—	18,091	12,797	32,942	76,785

Summary of Passes for Visiting.

Year.	Totals.			
	£			
1905-6	...	...	...	50,889
1906 7	...	...	...	51,100

NATIVE DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE.

The Deposit and Remittance Branch of the Transvaal Native Affairs Department being now closed no money was received from that source for distribution as was the case last year.

POLICE AND JUDICIAL.

Police and gaol Returns for the Territory will be found below :—

European officers	...	...	...	14
„ constables	...	...	...	6
Native officers	...	...	...	4
„ constables	...	...	...	4
„ sergeants	...	...	...	9
„ corporals	...	...	...	10
„ privates	...	...	...	246

Police Patrol Return.

The police have done well during the year ; they are practically up to full strength, and are all mounted and equipped serviceably for the work they are called upon to perform.

Number of patrols	...	...	2,036
„ men on patrol	...	...	2,858
„ miles patrolled	...	...	66,656
Arrests under liquor laws	...	...	67
„ „ pass laws	...	...	129
Other offences	...	...	109

Gaol Return.

Prisoners received into gaol	...	...	453
„ convicted	...	...	315
„ discharged unconvicted	...	...	124
„ in gaol 30th June, 1907	...	...	103
Floggings inflicted	...	...	Nil

Judicial Cases.

Judicial cases as under were heard in the Courts of the Assistant Commissioners for the Territory :—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	8
Theft	...	...	...	67
Pass regulations	...	...	...	120
Liquor regulations	...	...	...	32
Trading regulations	...	...	...	27
Resisting police	...	...	...	10
Assault	...	...	...	20
Rape	...	...	...	Nil
Other crimes	...	...	...	77
Civil cases	...	...	...	29

EDUCATION.

In the matter of education there again appears a slight falling-off in the number of scholars in the Government-aided schools.

	1905-1906.	1906-1907.
Expenditure	£11,119 15s. 4d.	£14,000 16s. 11d.
Schools	246	250
Scholars	12,490	12,275
Mean average attendance	9,704	9,454

POST AND TELEGRAPH.

During the past year the reorganisation of the whole Post and Telegraph Department of the Territory has been completed. The postmasters have been properly graded, the post offices renovated and brought up to date, and the whole Department placed on a sound footing to cope with the increased work which of late, has been demanded from it.

The thanks of this Government are due to the Postmaster-General of Cape Colony for the following postal statistics which he has kindly furnished :—

Correspondence.

Letters posted in Basutoland	...	...	...	356,915
„ received in Basutoland	...	...	...	388,297

Money Orders.

			£	s.	d.
Issued	5,593—Value	...	16,278	16	8
Paid	2,984	„	13,208	4	3

BASUTOLAND, 1906-7.

Savings Bank.

				£	s.	d.
Deposits	...	294—Value	...	2,345	11	5
Withdrawals	...	96 „	...	1,272	4	4

Telegraphs.

The Revenue derived from this source was £1,093 13s. 8d.

Postal Notes.

				£	s.	d.
Issued	...	1,960—Value	...	621	2	9
Paid	...	2,681 „	...	1,179	18	6

The average rainfall throughout the year for seven stations was 41·49 inches, being an increase of 15·15 inches on the previous year.

I have, &c.,

L. WROUGHTON,
Government Secretary.

The Resident Commissioner,
Basutoland.

ANNUAL REPORT—LERIBE DISTRICT, 1906-1907.

There has been no great change in the political state of the district since last year, though here and there a slight improvement is perceptible. This is especially so at Makhoakhoeng, where Letsika has at last been brought to see the futility of trying to disown his eldest son, and the result is that the state of the ward is more peaceful and orderly than I have ever known it to be.

Things at Tsimé are just as they were, though quite lately, owing to a recent *entente* between Jonathan and Joel, they seem to be mending, but as I believe the *entente* is only for a particular purpose, and not likely to be more than temporary, I do not see much chance of a permanent settlement growing out of it.

As I ventured to hint in last year's report, Jonathan found himself compelled to make a pronouncement upon the position of

his two principal sons Tau and Mateadira, but the pronouncement was rather equivocal and indecisive, and in effect left matters very much as they were before. I am not prepared to say that this is altogether deplorable, as I think there is something to be said for the view which I suggested last year—that a definite pronouncement might very possibly precipitate a disturbance.

The Leribe Chiefs have recently resuscitated their old claim to a definite portion of the mountain pasturage. I believe the claim, as an abstract question, has much to be said for it, but the ground they are claiming is now, and has been for many years, in effective, though not undisputed, occupation by the sons of Letsie, and even if the justice of the Leribe claim were admitted, it would be difficult to dislodge them now.

A disturbance occurred in the Ramanella ward last November. The Chief Mitchell, greatly provoked by acts of aggression on the part of Hlayoane, son of Seshope, whose general conduct was commented on in last year's report, went with an armed party and burned his village. A good deal of property was destroyed, but fortunately no lives were lost. The case was tried in the Court of the Resident Commissioner, and those responsible were fined and imprisoned.

I fear this ward is in rather a deplorable state owing to what, for want of a better term, I will call the senile slackness of the principal chiefs and the consequent lawlessness of their sons, notably those of Seshope. Peete's son Mitchell, the heir to the chieftainship, is an exception, and shows promise of ability in the management of affairs, but he is still in a subordinate position, and his influence, though considerable and growing, is not yet a power outside his personal following.

A bridge has been built over the Caledon river near Ficksburg, which should prove a great boon to the public. One over the Hlotse is now urgently required, as in wet seasons this station is practically isolated.

The main roads in the district are in good order, notwithstanding the heavy rains of last summer and autumn.

The harvest has been a very good one this year, and probably a large quantity of grain will be exported. One large swarm of locusts visited the district, but did only partial damage.

A sheep-dip was established last year, and was well patronised. 4,093 sheep were dipped during the year.

There is a new hospital in course of erection, which will be completed by November.

A successful Agricultural Show was held here on July 6th, and a remarkably fine lot of young stock, especially horses, was exhibited. Among these last the progeny of the Government Arabs was very noticeable.

Relations with neighbouring officials of the Orange River Colony continue to be of a cordial nature. I would like,

however, to draw attention to a difficulty felt by the absence of any adequate machinery in that Colony for the trial and adjustment of purely native matters. If the dispute is in the nature of an ordinary civil case, the complainant is referred to a lawyer, whose initial fees probably amount to more than the amount in dispute, and if, as is more likely, it happens to be a native matrimonial case there seems to be no remedy at all.

Natives of Basutoland are closely related and inter-married with those of the Orange River Colony, and disputes concerning inheritance, dowries, the custody of children, damages for seduction, &c., &c., are constantly occurring between parties on this side and that, and though Orange River Colony subjects get a ready hearing in our Courts, Basutoland natives have in effect either to forgo their claim, or wait for a chance of retaliation, which I have known to take the form of seizure of property and breach of the peace.

I attach a report from the officer in charge at Butha Buthe, and one from the medical officer here.

The following are the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.					£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	...	14,851	0	0
General traders' licences	...	...	...	...	505	0	0
Hawkers' licences	...	...	...	...	36	0	0
Recruiting labour licences	...	...	...	...	15	0	0
Judicial fines	...	...	...	...	253	5	0
Fees of court	...	...	...	...	9	16	0
Transfer of licences (fee)	...	...	...	...	0	5	0
Registration of marriages (fee)	...	...	...	...	2	15	0
Excise	...	...	...	...	12	14	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	124	15	9
Total	...	...	...	...	£15,810	11	0

Tax has been paid on 14,361 huts.

Arrear tax collected amounts to £550.

LICENCES.

The numbers of licences issued during the year are :—

General traders'	...	...	...	...	51
Paid hawkers'	...	...	...	...	36
Free hawkers'	...	...	...	...	17
Labour agents'	...	...	...	...	18

PASSES.

Passes were issued for the following purposes :—

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	19,780
„ „ Cape Colony ...	176
Working in the Kimberley mines ...	291
„ on Railway construction ...	4,022
„ in the Johannesburg mines	6,473
Agricultural labour ...	2,271
Miscellaneous ...	18,469
Total ...	<u>51,482</u>

POLICE.

The police force in the district consists of :—

Inspector ...	1
Sub-inspectors ...	2
Sergeants ...	2
Corporals ...	3
Lance-corporal ...	1
1st class privates ...	22
2nd class privates ...	34
Native officer ...	1
European constable ...	1
Total ...	<u>67</u>

Gaols.

During the year 45 persons were received into gaol, and of these 32 were convicted and sentenced. There were 13 not convicted. The number in gaol on the 30th June, 1907, was 13.

Patrols.

Number of patrols ...	532
„ men engaged ...	676
Estimated distance covered ...	20,883 miles.
Number of arrests ...	104
For contravening liquor regulations ...	5
„ „ pass regulations ...	50
For other offences ...	49

LOST STOCK.

The following table shows the result of action taken in the matter of tracing and recovering lost stock.

Description.	Traced to Basutoland.	Not traced to Basutoland.	Total Reported.	Recovered in Basutoland.	Not recovered in Basutoland.
Horses ...	8	25	33	8	25
Cattle ...	2	2	4	2	2
Sheep ...	—	143	143	—	143
Goats ...	10	134	144	10	134
Total ...	20	304	324	20	304

Of these it has been officially reported that seven horses, 62 sheep, and 112 goats were recovered in the Orange River Colony.

Cases Tried.

The following is a list of cases tried in the court:—

Assault ...	...	...	...	9
Culpable homicide	...	...	...	6
Theft ...	...	...	...	14
Contravening Pass regulations	...	...	...	35
„ trading regulations	...	...	...	5
„ customs regulations	...	...	...	3
Resisting police	...	...	...	3
Fraud ...	...	...	...	1
Abduction	...	...	...	1
Creating a disturbance	...	...	...	2
Contempt of court	...	...	...	1
Other crimes	...	...	...	5
Total ...	...	...	...	85

There were nine civil actions.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

The following are the average prices paid for stock and produce:—

Wheat (per muid)	...	...	12s. to 15s.
Mealies, „	...	...	6s. to 8s.
Kaffir corn „	...	...	8s. to 10s.
Forage, per 100 bundles	...	...	10s. to 20s.
Ponies	...	...	£10 to £25.
Cattle	...	...	£7 to £10.
Sheep and goats	...	...	£1.
Wool, per lb.	...	...	3d. to 5d.
Mohair, per lb.	...	...	10d. to 11d.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—BUTHA BUTHE 1906-1907.

The past year has been exceptionally quiet and uneventful; there have been no fights or disturbances of any kind.

The friction between Joel and Hlasoa still continues and unfortunately does not show signs of coming to an end.

The Makhoakhoa have been quiet, and this I put down to the fact that Letsika is now working with his eldest son Thakabanna.

There was a slight increase in the Hut Tax on last year amounting to £39 10s.

A large swarm of locusts passed through the district, but I am pleased to say that they did very little damage to the crops.

The mealie and Kaffir corn crops were very good and food is plentiful in all parts of the district.

The Government stud horse was killed by lightning on 15th December last.

The Police Detachment at this station is in an efficient state and the various duties were satisfactorily performed.

The roads are in a fair state, but it has been most difficult to keep them in anything like decent order, owing to the heavy rains and the want of sufficient road parties.

L. GRIFFITH,

Inspector, B.M.P.

Butha Buthe,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT—BEREA DISTRICT 1906-1907.

Assistant Commissioner's Office.

Berea,

1st July, 1907.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Berea District for the year ended 30th June, 1907.

I am glad to be able to report that this has been the most uneventful year since I came to the District. There has been an almost total absence of serious crime. Indeed, there was only one case—a leper in Peete's Ward murdered his wife and afterwards committed suicide.

There were, of course, some of the usual disputes as to the boundaries of the various wards, and probably one or two such cases will be brought before you during the coming year. The

line between Senekal and Sauer has, I hope, been finally settled. But the boundaries between Koali and Fako, and Koali and Senekal probably will be in dispute again.

The relations between Koali and Moeketse are still far from satisfactory. I believe the truth is that Moeketse desires to be independent of Koali; this is Koali's view, and of course, that being so, he does not make any serious effort to pull well with Moeketse.

A matter which I think may cause trouble any day is that of the cattle posts in the mountains. Masupha complains that he is being crushed out by Theko and Peete, and Leshoboro has also complained about the same subject. Knowing the great importance which the chiefs attach to their cattle posts, I consider this a serious question.

We have been visited by some very large swarms of locusts, and in many parts the crops have been quite destroyed. No "hoppers" were reported in this district.

We held our usual Agricultural Show on 5th June, and the reports of the judges on several of the exhibits were very good.

His Excellency the High Commissioner passed through part of the district during his tour in Basutoland, and I was much pleased with the way Masupha assisted in supplying horses at very short notice.

The tree nursery which I started last year will, I think, be a success, and though a large number of young trees were destroyed by a flood, we have 500 or 600 ready to plant out next season. All the walls which had been built in the donga here were swept away by the same flood.

In November I took over the main roads in the district. It has been a particularly hard season to keep roads in order, but I now have them in fair condition, and during the winter hope to make them really good. I find it much more satisfactory having the roads under my own control.

The Hut Tax has not, I am sorry to say, been paid up as well as I expected, the amount being £25 short of last year. The smaller amount of arrears will account for more than this, but still there should have been an increase—as there was in some wards.

I attach the usual returns :—

					£	s	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	...	6,667	10	0
Licences	...	...	...	...	266	10	0
Fines	...	...	...	...	39	10	0
Fees of court	...	...	...	...	2	16	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	0	13	0
Customs	...	...	...	...	47	3	4
Total					£7,024	3	0

Tax was paid on 6,454 huts. Arrears were £319 10s., or 4·78 per cent.

The following licences were issued during the year :—

General traders	...	...	...	24
Hawkers (paid)	...	...	...	3
Labour	...	...	...	27
Mill licence	...	...	...	1
Hawkers (free)	...	...	...	19

The passes issued were as follows, under various heads :—

Visiting Orange River Colony	...	...	4,389
„ Cape Colony	...	...	83
Kimberley mines	...	...	635
Railway construction	...	...	2,529
Johannesburg mines	...	...	2,101
Agriculture	...	...	1,807
Miscellaneous	...	...	703
			12,247

POLICE STATE.

Sub-inspector	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	1
„ lance-corporal	...	...	...	1
„ 1st class privates	...	...	...	12
„ 2nd „ „	...	...	...	13
			Total	30

Return of Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	328
„ men employed	...	...	...	638
„ miles covered	...	...	...	5,127
„ arrests (a)	...	...	...	8
„ „ (b)	...	...	...	44
„ „ (c)	...	...	...	3

The following cases were tried during the year :—

Contravening Pass laws	...	...	...	30
„ liquor regulations	...	...	...	11
Assault	...	...	...	1
Theft	...	...	...	4
Contravening trading regulations	...	...	...	1
Other cases	...	...	...	2
Civil cases	...	...	...	4

Gaol Return.

Number in gaol on 1st July, 1906 ...	...	7
Received into gaol during year ...	...	14
Sentenced	...	9
Handed over to Orange River Colony ...	...	2
Discharged	...	14
Untried	...	2
In gaol on 30th June, 1907 ...	...	5

RETURN OF LOST AND STOLEN STOCK REPORTED.

Description.	Reported.	Traced to Basuto- land.	Not traced.	Recovered	Not recovered.
Horses	13	8	5	8	5
Cattle	Nil	—	—	—	—
Sheep	Nil	—	—	—	—

The prices of stock and produce in the district are about as follow :—

Trek oxen £8 to £11; slaughter oxen £9 to £12; cows £7 to £12; horses £12 to £20; sheep 20s. to 25s.; goats 10s. to 15s.; wheat 10s. to 13s. per bag; mealies 5s. to 8s.; Kaffir corn 8s.; fine grease wool 4½d. to 5d. per lb.; mohair 7d. to 9d.

I attach roll of general traders.

NOMINAL ROLL OF GENERAL TRADERS.
Berea District, June, 1907.

No.	Names.	Situation of Store.	Remarks.
1	Bodkin, J. M. ...	Sefiking.	
2	Bradshaw, J. ...	Mohatlane.	
3	" ...	Motika.	
4	Crisp, O. E. ...	Teyateyaneng.	
5	Dawson, W. R. ...	Mapoteng.	
6	" ...	"	
7	" ...	Makhate.	
8	" ...	Hamoletsane.	
9	Fraser, D. and D. H.	Khamolane.	
10	" ...	Fako.	
11	" ...	Qhalaheng.	
12	Johnson ...	Marthinus.	
13	Kohler, H. ...	Tebetebeng (mill).	
14	Mahommed, E. N...	Mapoteng.	
15	Maitin Bros. ...	Berea Hills.	
16	" ...	Hangers Drift.	
17	" ...	Teyateyaneng.	
18	Stevens, G. L. ...	"	
19	" ...	"	
20	" ...	Koali.	
21	" ...	Ntlama.	
22	" ...	Cana.	
23	" ...	Sebalabala.	
24	" ...	Phofoolo.	
25	Yeats, J. S. ...	Sanekal.	

W. BOXWELL, Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MASERU DISTRICT.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner,
Maseru, Basutoland.

30th June, 1907.

The past year has been a most peaceful one, and no disturbances of any kind have occurred.

The rains, which started in September, continued with very little intermission until about May, and the roads have been in consequence in a deplorable condition. With the most strenuous efforts the main roads in the district have been kept open for traffic. During the coming year a greatly increased grant will be required to again get them into passable order. The bridge across the Little Caledon River, referred to in previous annual reports, has been commenced, and work on it, under the supervision and control of Mr. Gibson, the Government Engineer, is proceeding apace.

The railway continues to be a source of great convenience, and judging from the amount of activity at the station the returns should be financially satisfactory.

The hospital at Maseru is very greatly appreciated and is almost always continuously without an empty bed, the number of patients seeking admission being greatly in excess of the available accommodation. The general health of the district has been most satisfactory, no reports of any endemic disease having been received.

The water supply for the village has proved, owing to the abnormal rainfall, to have been sufficient for domestic purposes. When the new reservoir, the holding capacity of which is calculated to be 300,000 gallons, is completed, and further available water brought in, the water difficulty should be settled.

A number of trees have been planted out during the year, but some of the new plantations have not succeeded as well as they ought. Young trees are issued to natives free of charge.

Religious instruction and educational work continue to be carried on by missionaries of the Paris Evangelical Society, and the English and Roman Catholic Churches. The Government-aided schools in the district have been visited and reported on by Mr. Austen Williams, who was temporarily engaged for the work.

There has been, I regret to say, more disease than usual amongst stock. Several cases of anthrax amongst cattle and of glanders amongst horses have been reported. In the case of

the latter where owners have been induced to destroy the infected animals, compensation has been awarded, disinfectants have been issued free of charge, and isolation of suspected animals has been insisted upon. Every endeavour has been made to carry out the recommendations of the Veterinary Officer.

The sheep dip at Qeme is much used by natives in the neighbourhood, and during the past year upwards of 5,000 sheep and goats have been dipped. A number of good rams were imported by the Government, 10 of which were given to me to issue out to responsible natives. This I did after satisfying myself that they had cleared their respective wards of *zanthium spinosum*.

During the past spring locusts hatched out in the southern portion of the district, and prompt measures were taken for their destruction. Gangs of men were set to work destroying them with, in the early stages, soap spray, and later with the arsenical solution recommended by the locust bureau. The result proved most satisfactory, and a great number of swarms were destroyed. Later on, in the autumn, the district was visited by flying locusts, which did considerable havoc to the younger crops and to pasture generally. These swarms hovered around, and eventually deposited eggs over the greater portion of the district outside the mountain belt. These eggs will in turn have to be dealt with in the coming spring, when they are due to hatch out. The localities in which these eggs have been deposited have been marked, and the entire area covered is very extensive.

An Agricultural Show was held in Maseru on the 24th May last and was a great improvement on the one held the previous year. The exhibits were in many cases more numerous and the quality in some excellent.

Trade during the year has been fair. The wheat crop has again been a failure. Wool and mohair have increased in both quantity and quality, and the mealie and kaffircorn crops, though not yet reaped, bid fair to be good, despite the damage done to them by locusts.

The Government Industrial School has made considerable progress during the year, the number of pupils now being about sixty. The trades taught include carpentering, stone-cutting, blacksmith's work, shoeing of horses, the running of an oil engine for supplying the railway station with water, work in the fitter's workshop, and general supervision of the village water supply, pipes, and reservoir. Recently a corn mill has been started, driven by a steam engine, and this also is worked by the pupils under supervision.

The laundry under the auspices of the English Mission is still doing good work.

I attach the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.

			£	s.	d.
Hut tax ...	...	...	11,546	0	0
Licences	...	...	500	10	0
Fines ...	...	...	164	17	6
Customs	...	...	41	1	11
Fees of court	...	...	6	15	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	50	15	6
Total			<u>£12,309 19 11</u>		

Tax was paid on 11,282 huts, and arrear tax amounting to £442 was collected.

LICENCES.

The number of licences issued is as under :—

General traders' ...	...	...	...	31
Hawkers' (paid) ...	...	...	...	98
„ (unpaid) ...	...	...	...	54
Labour agents' ...	...	...	...	185

PASSES.

The following is the return of passes issued :—

Visiting in the O.R.C. ...	...	...	8,835
Working—O.R.C. coal and diamond mines	...	...	1,253
Visiting Cape Colony ...	...	...	271
Kimberley diamond mines ...	...	...	833
Johnannesburg Municipality	...	...	483
Transvaal gold and diamond mines	...	...	7,462
Agricultural work	...	...	273
Railway construction	...	...	62
Miscellaneous work	...	...	2,270
Total ...			<u>21,742</u>

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is :—

Sub-inspector ...	...	...	1
Native officer ...	...	...	1
European constables	...	...	3
Native „	...	...	2
„ sergeants	...	...	2
„ corporals	...	...	2
„ lance corporal	...	...	1
„ privates	...	...	54

Patrols.

Number of patrols	446
„ men employed	461
Estimated distance travelled (miles) ...	9,167

And the following arrests have been made :—

Contravening liquor laws	3
„ pass „	10
Other offences	7

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	145
„ „ discharged unconvicted	57
„ „ convicted and sentenced	73
„ „ in gaol 30th June, 1907	28
„ „ transferred	15
Floggings inflicted	1

Cases Tried.

The following cases have been tried during the year :—

Common assault	6
Assault with intent	2
Assault with intent to commit rape	1
Extortion	2
Escaping from custody	1
Fraud	14
Police Offences Act	5
Introducing Arms	1
Contravening liquor regulations	3
„ trading „	4
„ pass „	10
„ Prisons Act	1
Pretended witchcraft	2
Theft	14
Civil cases	13

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported Lost.	Traced into Basuto- land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	26	10	16	10	16
Mules	2	—	2	—	2
Cattle	7	—	7	—	7
Sheep	5	—	5	—	5

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

The following are current prices for stock and produce :—

Slaughter cattle ...	...	...	£10 each.
Cows ...	...	...	£8 to £10 each.
Horses ...	...	...	£15 to £25 „
Sheep ...	...	...	15s. to 25s. „
Goats ...	...	...	10s. to 12s. 6d. each.
Mealies ...	...	...	8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per bag.
Kaffir corn ...	...	...	10s. per bag,
Wool ...	...	...	4½d. to 6d. per lb.
Mohair ...	...	...	9d. per lb.

CHAS. E. BOYES,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MAFETENG DISTRICT, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1907.

GENERAL.

Nothing of much political importance has occurred in Mafeteng district during the past year. The land dispute between the Chiefs Seiso and Mahapela, referred to in my last annual report, still continues to cause friction, and the action of the higher chiefs, to which reference was made in that report as being calculated to prevent Mahapela from deriving any advantage from the decision then recently given, has led to a regrettable series of petty disputes tending to break up the authority of Mahapela over the clan of the Ba-Mohale. The present position is that the ground taken from Seiso has not reverted to Mahapela, nor has he been permitted to locate his followers thereon, but it has been handed over to a sub-chief, Napo, who although formerly under Mahapela, now claims to be directly under the Paramount Chief, and this claim on his part is rather encouraged than otherwise.

Such disputes, besides having an unsettling effect on the parties concerned, are found to seriously impede the collection of Hut Tax in the district.

A proper survey of the Mafeteng Camp and Government Reserve is much needed. A considerable number of building sites appear to have been granted in former years without any record having been kept. Many of these sites were built upon by natives, who subsequently sold them either to other natives or

to Europeans, and there appears to be no record of these transfers. In the absence of any properly drawn up plan of the Camp, it is difficult to revise the system or to trace the history of the various grants.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The condition of the main roads, after a season of unusual rain-fall extending over eight months, is far from satisfactory. Repairs have, however, been constantly carried on, and traffic has not been suspended, except at times by flooded rivers. As there are upwards of 180 miles of waggon roads in the district the expense of maintenance has been considerable.

The camp water-works continue to give a satisfactory supply of water. There is also a sufficient supply conserved in dams for the present needs of livestock.

New public offices are in process of building, and should be completed in a few months.

AGRICULTURE.

The drought which has prevailed during the four previous years, broke up at the end of September, 1906, and copious rains have since fallen lasting well into the present winter. The country is now well saturated and there is every prospect of a good wheat season, should the people take advantage of it. Some of them are, however, afraid to plough on account of the locusts, which may be expected to re-visit the country in the coming spring. There was a great invasion of locusts from the Orange River Colony during the months of November and December, 1906. Efforts were made to check them, with the result that, although the crops near the border suffered severely, the insects were prevented from penetrating any great distance into the district until their wings were developed, after which little could be done against them. They are reported to be breeding in various places near the border, and the work of locust destruction will probably have to be renewed in the spring and early summer. Detailed reports of the work done during the past season have already been furnished.

It is difficult to impress the Basuto with the importance of combined action in dealing either with locusts, or with the various weeds which are spreading through the country. As they occasionally collect a few sacks of locusts and use them for food, they are disposed to look on any general scheme for locust destruction with indifference, if not with actual disfavour, as interfering with one of their minor sources of food supply.

They were induced by the reward offered by Government of 2s. per sack, to collect locusts and bring them to the various destruction camps, but nothing would induce them, except in a few isolated cases, to take any steps for locust destruction

without payment. Similarly it is almost impossible to get them to destroy weeds outside the limits of their own gardens, and as they generally plough far more ground than they can keep in order, noxious weeds continue to spread through the country with very little check. Burrweed, which is the curse of the woolbuyer, is allowed to grow everywhere, except along the main roads, where the Government road parties have orders to destroy it. This state of things is naturally viewed with grave concern by the farmers of the Orange River Colony, as the sluits and water courses which drain into that territory from Basutoland, are full of burrweed, the seeds of which are carried on to the farms with every freshet.

An attempt has recently been made by the anti-progressive party among the natives, to raise an outcry against the efforts of the Government to improve the quality of the Basuto ponies by the introduction of better blood. This is only one of a series of frivolous complaints which have recently emanated from the same source against the Government. The theory set up in support of their contention is that the Basuto possess a native breed of ponies, which is more sure-footed and enduring than other breeds, and that the crossing with better bred animals is calculated to eliminate these qualities. The absurdity of this theory is shown by the following facts.

Firstly, the Basuto have no native breed of ponies, as 60 or 70 years ago they possessed no horses whatever. All the ponies in the territory at the present time, with the exception of actual importations, have been bred from stock originally brought in from the various surrounding colonies.

The descendants of these importations are generally of smaller size than the original stock, owing to their having to pick up a living in the mountains, where the climate in winter is decidedly rigorous. They are admittedly sure-footed, but not more so than well-bred horses brought up in similar situations; and these better-bred animals are found, owing to their being able to travel faster without distress, to be capable of beating the ordinary pony in endurance on his own ground, to say nothing of their being more generally useful both for saddle and draught purposes, and almost invariably realising better prices when sold to Europeans. As the Basuto usually castrate their best colts, leaving the inferior ones (which are too under-sized or misshapen to make useful saddle horses) to spoil the breed, the necessity for Government intervention to prevent the deterioration of a really useful class of animal, by means of fresh importations of suitable stallions, is sufficiently obvious.

RELATIONS WITH BORDERING STATES.

Our relations with the Orange River Colony are generally of a cordial nature. There are frequently recurring cases of Basuto women absconding from their husbands and taking

refuge in the Colony; and delay is sometimes experienced in dealing with these matters.

The question of the liability of Basutoland natives to pay poll-tax in the Orange River Colony, has also led to some correspondence, the usual course pursued being the somewhat cumbersome one of making the native pay poll-tax at the local magistracy in the Orange River Colony after which he has to apply through the Basutoland Government for the refund of the amount from the Government at Bloemfontein.

Liquor smuggling is still carried on to a considerable extent, and there have been several recent convictions for this offence.

The Orange River Colony officials have always rendered every assistance in their power in dealing with any matters which it has been necessary to refer to them.

EDUCATION.

A report on the Government-aided schools in this district was submitted in November, 1906. It is a discouraging feature of the native problem, that the better-educated natives, who owe their education in a great measure to the money granted by Government for that purpose, are among the most bitter opponents of the Government in this territory. In view of what is happening in India at the present time, this circumstance is worthy of attention.

REVENUE.

					£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	...	10,385	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	...	326	0	0
Fines	...	...	...	...	226	12	9
Customs	...	...	...	...	42	10	3
Fees	...	...	...	...	12	19	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	358	0	6
					£11,351 2 8		

Number of huts upon which tax was paid, 10,159. Amount of arrear tax paid was £226.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Wheat, per bag	...	...	...	...	15s.
Mealies	„	...	...	...	7s. 6d.
Kaffir corn	„	...	...	...	8s.
Barley	„	...	...	...	10s.
Oats	„	...	...	...	8s.
Oat hay, per 100 bundles	...	...	...	...	20s. to 25s.
Slaughter oxen	...	...	...	...	£9.
Cows	...	...	...	...	£6.

Basuto ponies	...	...	...	...	£18.
Sheep (breeding)	...	...	...	...	15s.
„ (slaughter)	...	...	...	...	20s.
Goats	...	...	...	...	10s.
Wool, per lb.	...	...	...	...	6d.
Mohair „	...	...	...	...	10d.
Hides „	...	...	...	...	6d.
Sheepskins, lb.	...	...	...	...	5d.

PASSEs ISSUED.

Visiting Orange River Colony	...	...	...	7,574
„ Cape Colony	...	...	...	676
Domestic service, Orange River Colony	...	...	...	4,140
„ Cape Colony	...	...	...	464
Kimberley mines	...	...	...	448
Jagersfontein „	...	...	...	842
Koffyfontein „	...	...	...	161
Johannesburg „	...	...	...	1,086
Railway construction	...	...	...	125
Indwe coal	...	...	...	2
Agricultural labour	...	...	...	103
Miscellaneous work	...	...	...	3,367
Viljoen's Drift coal	...	...	...	3
Total	...	...	...	<u>18,991</u>

POLICE STRENGTH.

Inspector	...	...	...	...	1
Native officer	...	...	...	...	1
„ constables	...	...	...	...	2
„ sergeant	...	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	...	1
„ privates	...	...	...	...	37

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	590
„ men employed	...	...	...	420
„ miles patrolled	...	...	...	15,784
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	...	...	...	13
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	...	...	...	7
„ arrests for other offences	...	...	...	23

LICENCES ISSUED.

General traders'	25
Hawkers' (paid)	49
„ (free)	64
Labour licences	54

CIVIL CASES tried	2
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CRIMINAL CASES.

Culpable homicide	1
Concealment of birth	3
Forgery	2
Theft	9
Contravening liquor regulations	8
Miscellaneous crimes	21

LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered in Basuto-land.	Recovered in Orange River Colony.	Not recovered.
Horses ...	35	—	35	—	21	14
Cattle ...	15	1	14	1	8	5
Sheep ...	255	—	255	—	21	232

Number of sheep dipped in the three Government dips 14,128.

GAOL RETURN.

Number of prisoners received into gaol...	79
„ „ discharged unconvicted ...	12
„ „ convicted and sentenced ...	67
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	17

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

S. BARRETT,

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—MOHALES HOEK DISTRICT,
1906-7.

During the past twelve months the principal event of interest was the visit of His Excellency the High Commissioner, who made a short stay here last April on his way to the Maluti for a shooting trip. A Pitso was held before Lord Selborne, who was accompanied by the Resident Commissioner. This was well attended, and several affairs of interest to the nation generally were discussed. His Excellency was rather unfortunate in the weather, which was not particularly propitious for mountain travelling.

Politically there have been very few occurrences of any moment in the district.

A few slight disturbances have taken place, but these were of a trivial character.

The tendency of the Baphuti to acknowledge Griffith's supremacy, to which I alluded in my last year's report, has received no check, and several more of the recalcitrant headmen have now been liberated for some months and have, so far as I am aware, given no further trouble.

In the Bataung ward Mokhele, who is now of advanced age, has, with the approval of the Paramount Chief, nominated his grandson Mokhelinyane as his heir. Mokhelinyane has already shown signs of a disposition to act wisely and sensibly, and I regard the prospect of his future chieftainship without apprehension.

Among the Bamohale, Goliath, Malebanye's son, at the beginning of the year appeared likely to upset the balance of affairs, but has, I trust, been influenced by his elders to settle down, and with additional experience should prove more useful and less disturbing.

The revenue shows an increase of over £900, which is to a great extent attributable to the hut tax being now levied on widows and bachelors.

A new gaol has been built at this station, and the much needed scheme for a new water supply is being proceeded with, and will soon be in working order.

Much damage was done to the roads owing to the heavy rainfall, but thanks to the increased sum allotted for road maintenance, they are fairly passable, and if a substantial addition can be made to the existing plant, the results next year should be of a more satisfactory and permanent nature.

A bridge over the Cornet Spruit would be a great boon. Great inconvenience and loss were experienced both by the European and native population owing to this river having been impassable during a great part of the summer and autumn.

The Agricultural Show suffered owing to this, as the Bataung, who have in the past taken a comparatively keen interest in it, were debarred by the river from exhibiting their stock or produce.

I regret that very few foals from the Government stallion have been reported, and hope that next season's results may be more satisfactory.

The wheat crop was a failure owing to the prolonged drought experienced in the early part of the year. This was followed by a remarkably wet summer and autumn, and the mealie and kaffir corn crops would have been immense had it not been for the late rains which rendered reaping a matter of great difficulty. Locusts also did some damage, although we were more fortunate than the neighbouring districts.

I fear, however, that next season there will be a great number of voetgangers to contend with, as reports have been brought in of quantities of locusts laying in the district. This is said to be preventing the natives from sowing wheat to any extent. This is greatly to be regretted, as a good wheat season would tend to relieve the commercial depression which exists, and on which the improvement in mealie and kaffir corn crops has little or no effect.

The police of this detachment continue to be efficient, and have made several captures of brandy runners, but owing to the facilities enjoyed by native voters in the Cape Colony, and the lower class of Dutch in the Orange River Colony for obtaining liquor, and to the difficulties they meet with in Basutoland, where almost every man acts as a scout for the smugglers, the task of putting anything like a check on this traffic is well-nigh a hopeless one.

The number of lost stock reported from neighbouring territories has been inconsiderable, and serious crime has not been very prevalent in the district.

The border fence between the Orange River Colony and Basutoland has been completed, but cannot be considered a thoroughly effective obstacle to small stock straying over the border on account of the numerous stretches of drystone wall which have been allowed to remain.

A few headmen have made efforts towards eradicating burr-weed in their wards, but only half-heartedly, and it is to be hoped that the Government rams, which have been issued to those who show interest in this work, may prove a more effectual inducement in the future.

The number of passes issued for work at the mines is about the same as last year, and would probably have shown an increase had it not been that De Beers Company, which is the most popular with natives in this district, stopped recruiting during the past few months.

I append the usual annual returns :—

REVENUE.				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	11,040	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	203	10	0
Fines	...	...	...	189	6	6
Fees of court	...	...	...	8	6	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	105	1	10
Customs	...	...	...	70	6	10
Total	...	...	...	£11,616	11	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 10,970.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £109.

LICENCES.				
General traders' licences	...	...	...	18
Hawkers' (paid)	...	...	...	16
„ (free)	...	...	...	41
Labour agents	...	...	...	13

PASSES.				
Johannesburg mines	...	...	...	294
Kimberley	„	...	...	641
Jagersfontein	„	...	...	404
Indwe	„	...	...	3
Orange River Colony mines	...	...	...	519
Visiting Cape Colony	...	...	...	1,009
„ Orange River Colony	...	...	...	1,103
Farm and domestic work	...	...	...	2,151
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	2,063
Total	...	...	...	8,187

POLICE.				
Sub-inspector	...	...	...	1
European constable	...	...	...	1
Native officer	...	...	...	1
„ sergeant	...	...	...	1
„ corporal	...	...	...	1
„ lance-corporals	...	...	...	2
„ privates	...	...	...	22
„ Special police	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	33

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	145
" men employed	...	...	...	253
" miles patrolled	...	...	...	10,374
" arrests for contravening pass laws.	...	...	...	30
" arrests for contravening liquor laws.	...	...	...	15
" arrests for other offences.	...	...	...	14

Civil and Criminal Cases.

Number of cases tried in the Assistant Commissioner's Court :—

Culpable homicide	...	...	...	1
Concealment of birth	...	...	...	1
Assault with intent	...	...	...	1
Theft	...	...	...	59
Liquor running	...	...	...	10
Contravening pass regulations	...	...	...	30
Attempting to obtain passes fraudulently.	...	...	...	12
Other minor offences	...	...	...	8
Civil actions	...	...	...	1

No floggings were inflicted.

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	...	...	68
" " " sentenced	...	...	...	57
" " " discharged unconvicted	...	...	...	5
" " " in gaol on 30th June, 1907	...	...	...	21

LOST STOCK.

Reported.	Description.	Traced into Basuto-land.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
11	Horses...	2	9	4	7
88	Sheep ...	—	88	13	75

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	...	...	...	£15 to £25
Cattle	...	...	...	£6 to £11
Sheep	...	...	...	10s. to £1
Mealies (per bag)	...	...	...	6s. to 12s.
Kaffir corn	„	...	...	10s. to 15s.
Wheat	„	...	...	No local supply.

There has been no outbreak of infectious disease amongst stock in the district during the twelve months under report.

Mohales Hoek,
30th June, 1907.

J. W. BOWKER,
Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT—QUTHING DISTRICT, 1906-7

In Mr. Mansel's Annual Report of last year on the district, he intimated that, owing to the fact that a number of important land settlements made here in 1904 by the late Paramount Chief Lerothodi were being disregarded by the different parties, considerable confusion existed in the district. In September last the Resident Commissioner and three influential representatives of the Paramount Chief came here to enquire into these and other matters of discord which had subsequently cropped up. Pitsos lasting over ten days were held, and most satisfactory settlements arrived at. The terms of these settlements are being strictly enforced, and it may safely be said that, in a political sense, the district is in a tranquil state.

In consequence of the heavy rainfall of 43·92 inches during the year under review, considerable damage has been done to all district roads; but, with an increased grant from Government funds, repairs of a permanent nature are now being undertaken.

The wheat crop this year, though not an entire success, has shown an improvement on the harvesting results of a few previous seasons. Oats, maize, and Kaffir corn have all been successfully grown, and good crops have recently been reaped.

At the Agricultural Show held here in May last, the exhibits of animals and produce were of good class and quality; the exhibits, however, were not numerous as the weather on the occasion was wet and very cold.

A few dense swarms of locusts visited the district in May and June—fortunately too late to do any serious damage. It is expected, however, that the egg deposits will cause numerous "voetgangers" to be hatched out in the early spring, and the expense of a locust campaign may be entailed.

Fourteen Government rams of a suitable breed have been received from Maseru for issue to enterprising sheep farmers in the district. Local chiefs have been advised that the issue will only be made to those who have shown successful efforts in assisting to destroy burrweed.

The Arab stud horse "Viceroy" standing at this station, appears to be much appreciated by the Quthing natives, and during the season ended March, 1907, 35 mares were served.

Certain additional public works are shortly to be undertaken in this camp, notably the erection of a new gaol. With improved accommodation for prisoners, it is hoped to check the spread of enteric fever, which has recently occurred here to a considerable degree—due, possibly, to the crowded and unhealthy state in which convicts have previously been housed.

The following are the usual Annual Returns :—

REVENUE.

	£	s.	d.
Hut tax	6,384	10	0
Licences	172	10	0
Fines	123	13	6
Ferry tolls	186	2	0
Fees of court or office	3	16	0
Miscellaneous	111	17	2
Customs	22	6	6
Total	<u>£7,004</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>2</u>

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 6,348.

Amount of arrear tax paid, £47 10s.

LICENCES.

General traders' licences	14
Hawkers' licences (paid)	31
" " " (free)	18
Labour agent's licence	1

LOST OR STOLEN STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Recovered.	Not recovered.
Horses	9	6	3	6	3

PASSES ISSUED.

Visitors to Cape Colony... ..	3,365
" Orange River Colony	205
Selling produce in Cape Colony	419
Riding transport in Cape Colony	465
Working in Cape Colony	1,128
" Orange River Colony	145
" Johannesburg	51
" Kimberley	23
" Jagersfontein	88
" Indwe	10
Total	<u>5,899</u>

POLICE.

The strength of the police detachment in this district is as follows :—

Sub-inspector	1
Native sergeant... ..	1
" corporal... ..	1
" lance-corporal	1
" privates... ..	22
	<u>26</u>

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	...	165
„ men employed	...	...	...	...	240
„ miles travelled	...	...	...	...	5,321
„ arrests for contravening pass regulations	...	...	...	...	3
„ arrests for contravening liquor regulations	...	...	...	...	8
„ arrests for other offences	...	...	...	...	13

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	...	...	50
„ „ convicted and sentenced	...	...	47
„ „ discharged unconvicted	...	...	3
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	...	...	11

Cases Tried.

Theft	...	...	...	...	3
Contravening Pass regulations	...	...	...	...	15
Contravening trading regulations	...	...	...	...	14
Resisting arrest	...	...	...	...	7
Trespass	...	...	...	...	1
Contravening Masters and Servants Act	...	...	...	...	3
Forgery	...	...	...	...	1
Contempt of Court	...	...	...	...	1

No floggings were inflicted during the year.

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Horses	...	...	...	£10 to £15.
Oxen	...	...	...	£7 to £8.
Cows	...	...	...	£5 to £6.
Sheep	...	hamels	22s. 6d.,	ewes 12s. to 15s.
Goats (Boer)	...	...	...	12s. to 15s.
Wool	...	...	...	6d. per lb.
Mohair	...	...	...	10d. „
Wheat	...	...	...	12s. per bag.
Mealies	...	...	...	8s. „
Kaffir corn	...	...	...	10s. „

F. JENNER,

Acting Assistant Commissioner.

Quthing, Basutoland,
30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT—QACHA'S NEK DISTRICT,
1906-7.

The dispute mentioned in my last report between chiefs Makhoala and Ntaote nearly reached a climax some months ago as Chief Jonathan Molapo of Leribe is claiming the place where Ntaote resides. I am afraid no settlement can be made at present.

Owing to the prevalence of East Coast fever in Natal it was considered necessary to protect the country, and native guards were engaged to watch the principal passes. So far this work has been effectually performed, and no attempts have been made to smuggle cattle into the district. Some of the police have been constantly employed on the same duty.

Great hardship has been caused in this district by the Cape Proclamation, No. 74, dated 6th February, 1907, prohibiting the introduction of cattle into East Griqualand unless used solely for transport purposes, immediate slaughter, or those that have recently been inoculated against lung-sickness. As the disease does not exist in the country it is absurd to inoculate, and the interchange of cattle amongst natives with the neighbouring territory is thereby prevented.

Locusts made their appearance in Sekake's ward in May and June; large numbers died from the severe weather and very little damage was done.

The postal service between this station and Quthing was discontinued as delays were constantly taking place.

Within the last few months an agreement has been made with a medical practitioner residing near the border in Matatiele district to visit this camp twice a month and whenever urgently needed.

A rough wagon road has been constructed by the firm who opened a store at Sehapa's village from Mpite's, a distance of about 15 miles through rather bad country. I hope in time to come it will be extended by Government along the Orange River to Quthing so as to connect this district with other parts of Basutoland. The projected Ongeluk's Nek route, abandoned years ago, would undoubtedly be the best if all the difficulties could be surmounted.

A few Rambouillet rams were purchased and distributed amongst chiefs and people; a repetition of this on a larger scale would greatly increase the export of wool in a few years.

Crops, particularly wheat, have done remarkably well in the northern wards, but here they have been almost a failure.

I attach the usual annual returns.

REVENUE.

				£	s.	d.
Hut tax	...	...	...	3,996	0	0
Licences	...	...	...	217	0	0
Fines	...	...	...	87	5	0
Fees	...	...	...	2	0	0
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	6	16	0
Customs	...	...	...	17	16	0
Total	...	...	...	£4,326	17	2

Number of huts on which tax was paid, 3,937.

Amount of arrear tax paid was £113.

LICENCES.

General traders'	...	...	...	5
Paid hawkers'	...	...	...	172

PASSES.

Visiting in the Orange River Colony	...	...	...	151
" " Cape Colony	...	...	...	3,267
" " Natal	...	...	...	216
Kimberley mines	...	...	...	55
Johannesburg mines	...	...	...	141
Indwe coal mines	...	...	...	13
Railway construction...	...	...	...	10
Agricultural work	...	...	...	888
Miscellaneous work	...	...	...	4,596
				9,337

DEPOSIT AND REMITTANCE AGENCY.

Remittances received through the Deposit and Remittance Agency, Johannesburg.—Nil.

POLICE STATE.

Sub-Inspector	...	...	...	...	1
Native sergeant	...	...	...	...	1
" corporal	...	...	...	...	1
" privates	...	...	...	...	21

Patrols.

Number of patrols	...	...	...	178
" men employed...	...	...	...	226
" miles patrolled...	...	...	...	7,922

Number of Arrests.

Contravening pass laws	6
„ liquor regulations	5
„ other regulations	8

Cases Tried.

Theft	13
Pass regulations	12
Culpable homicide	2
Section 7 liquor regulations	5
Customs regulations	3
Trading do.	2
Other offences	20
Civil cases	1

Gaol Return.

Number of prisoners received into gaol	52
„ „ sentenced	46
„ „ discharged unconvicted	4
„ „ in gaol on 30th June, 1907	8

No floggings were inflicted.

RETURN OF LOST STOCK.

Description.	Reported.	Traced.	Not traced.	Re-covered.	Not recovered.
Horses	5	5	—	5	—
Sheep	36	—	36	—	36

PRICES OF STOCK AND PRODUCE.

Cattle	£5 to £14.
Horses	£10 to £25 (scarce).
Sheep	10s. to 20s.
Goats	10s. to 20s.
Wheat	15s. per bag.
Mealies	8s. to 10s. per bag.
Kaffir corn	10s. per bag.
Wool	5d. to 6½d. per lb.
Mohair	10d. to 11d. „

E. D'U. BLYTH,

Qacha's Nek,
30th June, 1907.

Assistant Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, 1906-1907.

During the year under review the people have shown an increasing inclination to utilise the Government hospitals and dispensaries. There is an increase over last year of 2,500 first attendances and 87 in-patients.

There were no epidemics of any importance during the year, which was an unusually healthy one. This makes the increased attendances the more satisfactory.

I am glad to be able to report that with the exception of a small outbreak at a village in the Quthing district the territory has been quite free from small-pox.

Table showing attendances during the year.

District.	First attendances.	Subsequent attendances.	In-patients.	Vaccinations.
Leribe	4,810	760	146	58
Maseru	8,164	1,112	441	—
Mateteng	6,463	1,186	80	2,594
Mohales Hoek	2,190	326	70	4,541
Total	21,627	3,384	737	7,103

References to an increase of leprosy are made in two Medical Officers' Reports. Efforts to ascertain the real extent to which the disease prevails have been made. On three occasions every leper who could be traced was examined and the case recorded. The first leprosy investigation was viewed with suspicion by the natives and doubtless many cases were concealed. The second count made in 1902 was more successful, and I think most of the cases were under observation. In 1906 a third investigation was made and a report thereon is in course of preparation. The numbers show an increase over those observed in 1900, but the increase, after making allowance for cases which probably existed but were not observed on that occasion, is not sufficient to lead one to regard the disease as a serious menace. The natives now fully realise its contagious nature and voluntarily segregate their lepers. The experiment of forming a leper colony, which is being tried by the Chief Jonathan in the Leribe district, deserves encouragement. This method of dealing with leprosy was advocated by the writer in 1894, but the difficulty of finding sufficient land has always been a difficulty, and will remain so until the initiative is taken by the Chiefs. It must not be forgotten that unless isolation of a leper colony is strictly enforced the experiment will fail. If, however, it proves successful it may be possible in future to induce other leading Chiefs to follow

Jonathan's example, and to place the leper colonies under the supervision of the Medical Authorities.

Hospital Accommodation.—This is still a pressing question. In my last annual report I drew attention to the matter and I would again earnestly represent the desirability of enlarging the Maseru hospital. It is unnecessary to repeat the facts adduced in my last report as the same conditions still obtain, except that the need is more urgent.

Additions to the Staff.—In 1906 I pointed out that we were running the medical work on too small a margin. The experience of the past year has served to confirm this view. A whole-time Assistant Medical Officer should be appointed on the lines sketched in my last annual report, and as the present nurses' quarters would be required for the Resident Medical Officer, it would be necessary to provide the increased hospital accommodation immediately.

Water supply.—At most stations I gather from reports this is now in a satisfactory state. At Maseru, however, it is still inadequate. The average daily amount available is about 10,000 gallons, while the population of the camp comprises approximately 1,500 natives and 250 Europeans. There are also two public drinking troughs for horses and cattle, two industrial schools, the hospital, gaol, and veterinary department to be supplied. It will, therefore, be seen at a glance how inadequate the present supply is.

Sanitation and public health.—In November, 1906, I represented this Government at the first meeting of the principal health officers of the various South African Colonies and Protectorates. The report of this conference is already in the hands of the Government. Under existing conditions in Basutoland, it is not possible to give effect to the recommendations which were unanimously adopted by the conference. I consider, therefore, that it is worthy of consideration as to whether the time has not now arrived when the Basutoland Administration should have a public health department. This report is not the place to discuss details of such a scheme, but I am convinced that the well-being of the people would be furthered by its adoption. Pending the organisation of a public health department, I agree with the medical officer, Mohales Hoek, in thinking that something might be done to make the Government reserves an object lesson in sanitary efficiency. I have lectured for the last two years on public health and sanitation to the native teachers at their vacation course. Unless the principles taught in these lectures are exemplified in practice, and the practice enforced on the Government reserves, we cannot look for much improvement in the habits of the people, or the condition of their own villages.

EDW. C. LONG,

Principal Medical Officer.

LERIBE MEDICAL REPORT, 1906-7.

The following table shows the attendances at the Dispensary, and the number of hospital patients during the year ending 30th June, 1907 :—

Out-patients—	First attendances	...	4,810
„	Subsequent attendances	...	760
In-patients	...	...	146
Total			<u>5,716</u>

The figures indicate a considerable increase over those of last year, and it is gratifying to note that the Basuto are appreciating more and more every year the work of the Dispensary and Hospital.

The year has been an average one, and there is not much of importance to record. There was a severe epidemic of measles during the summer months, and, at the time of writing, whooping cough is prevalent. The year has been the wettest on record, 48·34 inches having fallen. Summer diarrhoea was more severe than usual, especially during the months of January and February.

There are 107 persons on the Leper Register. Chief Jonathan has started a small agricultural colony for a few of these unfortunate people, and it is hoped before long that he will be able to set aside sufficient ground to support all the lepers in the district. When this is done it will be possible to grapple with the disease, and to relieve the sufferings of those who are afflicted.

The new Hospital and Dispensary are nearing completion, and it is hoped that work will be begun in them on 1st November.

The health of the police detachments and the prisoners has been good during the year.

Fifty eight vaccinations were performed. Emigrants are not vaccinated now when leaving the country.

N. M. MACFARLANE,
Medical Officer.

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT—MAFETENG DISTRICT, 1906-7.

During the past year 7,649 patients were treated at the dispensary. Of these 6,463 attended for the first time, showing an increase of 936, and the subsequent attendances were 102 in excess of last year. There has been no very serious outbreak of any infectious disease in the district, save during the last three months. Whooping cough has been rather prevalent, and during the summer many cases of gastro-enteritis were seen. In the months of January and February there were six cases of enteric fever in the camp, three Europeans and 13 natives being attacked. The former all recovered, while two of the latter succumbed, and with this exception the health of the camp has been very good. One white infant died of gastro-enteritis, and this was the only case of death amongst Europeans.

80 patients were operated on in the hospital, and 34 were medically treated. Of the latter three died, the cause of death being enteric fever, dysentery, and gastro-enteritis.

There was an inspection of lepers during the months of October and November, and these cases show a large increase.

The gaol has a good health record, no case of serious illness having occurred, and the building is kept clean and sanitary.

The number of vaccinations at the dispensary has been 4,541.

With an attendance of 7,649 patients and an increase of 1,038 on last year, I should like to call your attention to the advisability and necessity of a small hospital with an efficient nursing staff.

H. R. F. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT, MOHALES HOEK, 1906-7.

The attendances under different headings as compared with those of the previous year are shown in the following table:—

Attendances.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
Out-patients—				
(a) First attendances	2,109	2,190	81	—
(b) Subsequent attendances	339	326	—	13
In-patients ...	46	70	24	—
Paid vaccinations ...	2,405	2,504	99	—
Totals ...	4,899	5,090	204	13

The treatment of a larger number of in-patients was possible on account of a marquee being placed at my disposal during the past year.

There were 60 surgical and 10 medical cases admitted, the latter being all serious cases.

Of the surgical cases 47 were cured, two improved, three not improved, one refused operative treatment, and seven remain under treatment.

Of the medical cases five were cured, one improved, one not improved, two died, and one still remains under treatment.

Chloroform was administered 45 times without any mishap.

The necessity for sufficient and proper hospital accommodation with its accompaniments is the chief want of this station, and of South Basutoland.

The question has already been referred to in my annual reports of 1904-5 and 1905-6, and I submitted a further memorandum to the Resident Commissioner in April of this year, so will not refer further to the matter here.

The health of the district has been undisturbed by any severe outbreak of disease during the past year with the exception of small isolated occurrences of enteric fever which took place soon after the first spring rains fell.

The cases were mostly mild, however, and in this camp children only were attacked.

The health of the police, their families, and the prisoners has been good.

The gaol accommodation is now ample, and sanitary arrangements all that can be desired.

The new water supply will soon be completed, and promises to be sufficient for our needs for some time to come.

As the population increases in our camps the question of the disposal of night soil and rubbish must receive attention if we are to be saved from some fearful epidemic at some future time. It is a difficult question to deal with as met with in a native community, but a beginning could be made amongst the purely Government employees of such. As an example to the village, I should like to see the Government lay out a central police camp, with a uniform type of cottage and small garden attached to each, with the necessary sanitary arrangements for each family. Being done at Government expense, such a scheme could be controlled, and inspections duly made, and penalties exacted for non-compliance with regulations laid down. In time the more educated natives in the camps would follow suit, and later compulsory sanitary regulations could be extended to the whole camp.

W. R. NATTLE,
Medical Officer.

**ANNUAL REPORT—GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL
SCHOOL, MASERU, FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE, 1907.**

During the past year considerable progress has been made with the school buildings. The native teachers' cottages have been completed, and are now occupied by the two native teachers on the staff. The main school building has been finished, and has been in occupation since January. The completion of this building has made a great deal of difference in the working of the school. The "Selborne Hall"—the school room—is used daily for the night school, and enables the teacher to do his work in comfort. The dormitories in the main school building are large, light, and well ventilated, and will be of the greatest benefit in keeping the pupils in good health. In accordance with the instructions of the Principal Medical Officer, the floors of the dormitories are flagged. This is a great improvement to a boarded or earth floor, as the room can be flushed out with water and disinfectant every week, and thus kept very clean. The waggon makers' shop has been finished and is now in use. The blacksmiths' shop is nearly completed, and will be in use in August next.

In January a special grant was authorised by His Excellency the High Commissioner for the erection of an engineers' shop, and the purchase of an engine and plant to be run by steam. The shop has been built, and is now in use. We have purchased and erected a 7 b.h.p. boiler and high-speed vertical engine, a screw-cutting lathe, and an Inkoos mill. The above are all in working order, and the mill is proving of great use to the natives in the district. The pupils have erected the whole of this plant under the direction of the instructor in this department.

We have now, in the Engineers' department, oil and steam engines; and pupils who pass through their course in this department should have no difficulty in obtaining lucrative work in the adjoining territories. To complete the school buildings as allowed for in the first estimate and plan, we have to erect two cottages for European teachers and the main store. These will be put in hand and finished in the coming year.

The health of the pupils throughout the year has been good. I feel sure that, with the excellent dormitories we have, we shall be able to avoid chest complaints, which natives are so liable to contract at schools.

At the end of June, 1906, we had on the roll 29 pupils. This number continued till December, 1906. In January, 1907, new pupils were accepted, and we have now on the books 56 pupils, distributed as follows:—

Carpenters...	...	...	...	...	12
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	10
Engineers ...	...	...	...	...	8
Waggon Makers	...	...	...	...	9
Builders ...	...	...	...	...	17

In January, 1908, I propose to admit more pupils to bring the number up to 80, which will be as many as we have accommodation for, and as many as we shall be able to find work for.

During the year the pupils have been employed on various works for the school, for the Government, and for the European and native inhabitants of Maseru.

The value of work done in each department during the year is:—

		£	s.	d.
Building Department		1,503	19	5
Blacksmiths' Department		350	14	6
Carpenters' Department		1,674	14	0
Waggon Makers' Department		388	17	10
Engineers' Department		687	8	8
Total		£4,605	14	5

The school buildings and the carpenters' shop were again used, during the first three weeks in January, for the native teachers' vacation course; and the school instructor in carpentry conducted the classes in woodwork.

There has been one change in our staff. Mr. Mann, the instructor in smiths' work, left at the end of 1906 to proceed to England, and his place has been filled by Mr. W. Penfold. The department under his care is making satisfactory progress.

The method of teaching the pupils is very much the same as that given to apprentices in English workshops. The pupils are not employed in making useless fancy articles, but in making useful everyday things, as doors and windows, &c., and they get a great deal of practical experience in the contract work which we undertake. During the first year it meant a great waste, in many cases, of good materials, but we find that it is quite the best in the long run, for the boys who have passed through their first year are getting most useful and can be left to themselves to complete many small jobs.

The conduct of the pupils during the past year has been good.

I have to thank the staff, European and Native, for the loyal support they have given me, and for the tact they have exercised in maintaining discipline. The average age of the pupils is 20, and it requires tact and discretion on the part of the teachers to maintain discipline among pupils of this age, who have never been under any restraint or discipline before coming to the school.

NELSON W. FOGARTY,

Director of the Government Industrial School.

Maseru,

30th June, 1907.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT VETERINARY OFFICER, 1906-7.

Maseru,

30th August, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you, herewith, my Third Annual Report, dealing with stockbreeding and stock-diseases, subjects which during the past year have engaged my attention.

A.—GENERAL REMARKS.

(1) The *rainfall* has throughout the country been considerably above the usual average, and a natural consequence of the increased moisture in soil and air was a very satisfactory appearance of the veld nearly all the year round. This change, however, cannot be said to have been an unmixed blessing for, as invariably the case, it was quickly followed by a higher rate of morbidity and mortality from such diseases which are due to macro- or micro-organisms capable, under such conditions, of showing more rapid propagation and thus greater activity for evil. Foretold should be forewarned, and stockbreeders would do well to keep this fact in mind, and to acquaint themselves beforehand with the methods of battling against these plagues.

(2) *Locusts*, both voetgangers and fliers, have, unfortunately, not been conspicuous by their absence, especially along our western border. It is to me a matter for congratulation that concerted action is contemplated by the South African States, including Basutoland, against this curse, but in a country like the latter, which has an abundance of live-stock; a happy-go-lucky native population; and limited grazing areas, often very thickly covered with luxurious grass, particular care must be taken to prevent injury or even loss of stock.

The occurrence at Kolo in the district of Mafeteng, where several big oxen and cows succumbed to acute inflammation of the bowels, combined with more or less complete paralysis of the locomotive apparatus, proves that proper instruction and care should by no means be "negligible quantities" during spraying operations.

(3) My *veterinary lectures* for the teachers present at the vacation course held during January, were continued at the request of the Director of the Industrial School, Maseru. I have naturally endeavoured to select matter of general interest to the public and of importance to the country. The subjects discussed in the past are "The necessity and value of Agricultural Schools," "Horse-breeding in South Africa and Basutoland in particular," "Diseased meat and its dangers to man," "The castration of stallions and the caponising of cocks." In addition

I handed to each teacher two pamphlets, on scab and on quarter-evil, for careful perusal, hoping in this way to spread light on these diseases.

(4) The *exportation of live-stock*, viz., sheep, slaughter oxen, and especially horses, has not been considerable. The heavy losses from horse-sickness in the other Colonies have induced many speculators to barter horses for cattle, a business to which Basuto are not in the least averse. But this trading in domestic animals, which is of great economic value to the country, as it has within its borders ever-increasing numbers of surplus live-stock, is more or less endangered on account of the restrictions which the adjoining States have now begun to place upon the removal of farm-stock from Basutoland. The tendency, I have no doubt, will be to make such regulations more severe and to extend them to various classes of animals—a system which our native population may perhaps think irksome and unnecessary, but which is dictated by a spirit of self-protection thoroughly justifiable under the circumstances.

(5) An *Inter-Colonial Veterinary Conference* was held in Bloemfontein during March, which I attended as the delegate from Basutoland. Important resolutions were submitted and discussed, dealing chiefly with Inter-state movements of horses, cattle, sheep, and dogs, and measures preventing the spreading of glanders, tuberculosis, contagious pleuro-pneumonia, scab, and rabies.

I understand that some months previously, in November, another colonial conference had been held, having as its object the question of Veterinary Research Laboratories—establishments which are of the very greatest importance to the South African flockmaster. It is, for this reason, much to be regretted that the deputy from Basutoland was a medical and not a veterinary officer, who would have approached the matter with the necessary professional experience and sense of responsibility.

B.—SPECIAL REMARKS.

(a) *Contagious and Infectious Diseases.*

(1.) It is a matter for sincere congratulation that Basutoland during the past year has continued to enjoy complete freedom from *pleuro-pneumonia* and from *East Coast fever*, diseases which at this moment still greatly disturb the farmers' minds and the farming operations in some of the neighbouring colonies, notably Cape Colony and Natal. The first-named of these scourges, having, in years not far remote, been rampant in Basutoland, inflicting severe losses, is by no means unknown to our native population. It is to be hoped that the Administration will succeed in preventing inroads of this plague across our borders, although this constitutes a task that is by no means easy, owing to the insidious nature of the disease, which is due to an often

very protracted period of incubation and a not infrequently somewhat latent course run by the malady. A proclamation, regulating the introduction of cattle from the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, has been drafted by me and will, I think, shortly be promulgated.

East coast fever, the symptoms and method of eradication of which I had an opportunity of studying during a flying visit to Natal in September last, is still to us a matter of anxiety and a source of danger, although it cannot be gainsaid that the double-fenced and strongly guarded line of railway running from Harrismith to Pietermaritzburg, is greatly to our advantage and deserves even more trust as a line of defence than our arrangements along the Natal-Basutoland border. What this pest could or could not achieve if introduced amongst our native stock I do not intend now discussing. Suffice it to state that, in Basutoland, we have numbers of ticks, plentiful in summer and somewhat rare during the cold season, which are known to be able to spread East Coast fever after they have once become infected with the piroplasma. It is, therefore, prudent to keep a watchful eye and to be up and doing instead of trusting in a purely imaginary immunity, whilst certain specific conditions prevailing in this territory would only produce in the long run more or less unimportant modification in the behaviour of an outbreak.

(2) *Anthrax* and *quarter-evil* have been very prevalent, practically all over Basutoland, during the past year. Statistics, which would form interesting as well as important reading, continue, unfortunately, to be non-existing, but it would not be difficult to prove, by means of an inquiry, that the losses amongst cattle have been very considerable. Indeed the virulence of the infection was frequently so remarkable that in many quarter-evil areas not only young calves and old cows, a very unusual experience in ordinary years, succumbed to the malady, but that even sheep and goats were not spared. Furthermore it may be worth recording that these outbreaks extended over a long period and that even in mid-winter, in June and July, cases were brought to my notice.

All these observations are due to the fact that the increased rainfall was particularly favourable to a rapid propagation of the micro-organisms which cause these maladies, and it is not too much to look forward to a renewal of such outbreaks during the coming season. There is also no doubt that the unclean habit of the Basuto to use for home consumption any carcase lying in the veld greatly tends to spread these maladies, on account of the constant re-infection of grass and soil, which goes hand-in-hand with their contamination.

It is fortunate that these dangerous maladies can be checked, and in course of time even completely eradicated from any area, by means of vaccine inoculations, but unless Basutoland has a staff of district veterinary surgeons to perform these difficult

operations, I am afraid their discovery will not be of material benefit to this country. To hand anthrax vaccine to laymen would be a mistake, and although I have been obliged, in spite of strong remonstrance from the Pasteur Institute, to send out quarter-evil vaccine to native inoculators, I had, for technical and other reasons, to select an inferior, because simpler, method, as the most life-saving, and therefore most commendable, method could not be entrusted to the ordinary man.

(3) *Glanders*, I regret to state, is gradually but surely gaining ground in Basutoland, although, owing to the non-enforcement of compulsory notification of all outbreaks, it is impossible to say to what extent such is the case. Unfortunately there exists, at least to the eyes of laymen, a more or less distinct resemblance between this ruinous plague and other maladies, prevalent amongst equines, as for instance acute or chronic catarrhs of the nose or sinus of the head, ordinary lymphangitis, strangles, and infections of various descriptions, producing sores and abscesses here or there on the body. Thus horse-owners do, as a rule, not realise that their animal is suffering from glanders until the disease is in a very advanced stage and has spread to others hitherto healthy. In this manner the disease gets a firm hold and does a corresponding amount of damage, especially as opportunities to contract the disease are by no means rare in Basutoland, the natives being fond of gathering together in large parties for agricultural, religious, legal, and other purposes.

The forms which glanders assumes in this country are the same as elsewhere and chiefly depend upon the initial seat of infection. Bacilli rubbed into the skin produce first of all what people commonly call farcy, cutane glanders, whilst an infection of the nose is followed by nasal discharge combined with ulcerations of the mucous membrane and an indurative process of the lymphatic glands. When the lungs become chiefly diseased we have the pulmonary form, which like the others may be acute or chronic, with its characteristic pathological lesions. Then there is the typical, and atypical, reactor, a horse probably infected through the digestive apparatus and not showing any external symptoms. Such animals appear not infrequently quite fit and fat, nothing whatever suggesting that they have been in contact with virulent material. It is only by means of mallein (malleus = glanders)—that diagnostic which has, in a measure, reformed our knowledge of the disease and its eradication—that they can be detected, and then either be placed under surveillance or destroyed. I must add, that in order to combat glanders successfully, a certain line of policy, finding expression in hard and fast rules, should be followed, wherever the disease exists, and I would strongly advise that these be laid down as early as possible and embodied in a proclamation. Our present practice, to have everything glandered, reactors included, destroyed, and a certain amount of compensation given to owners, is highly commendable; but unless we have a

complete set of regulations, and enforce the same throughout Basutoland, making the contents known in every "stad," store, and station of the missions, I am certain that the advantages gained by means of this expenditure, will only be temporary and individual and thus unsatisfactory.

(4) *Scab* continues to be prevalent amongst all classes of farm stock, particularly horses and sheep. More or less dormant during the season when the grass is plentiful and the animals gaining in condition, the disease becomes very evident during the winter, and many calls for advice and help reach me.

To encourage curing sheep's scab, and to bring the best method known, viz., dipping, still more within the reach of the public, the Administration has gone on with the work of erecting dipping stations and placing these important establishments at the disposal of owners of small stock. I understand that all our tanks have been fairly well patronised by flock-masters, and I trust they will remain in favour, even when the natives find out that the relief thus attained at a small outlay is but a temporary one, making it necessary to repeat the washing year by year. To derive a more lasting benefit would require infinitely more trouble and a much larger expenditure; indeed an organisation complete in every way, and taking the work altogether out of the hands of the scab-breeding public. Dipping is useful, but when animals thus treated are at once returned to their parasite-infected homesteads or soon again brought into contact with infected flocks, there is no chance of permanent improvement.

More important, however, and at the same time less expensive than a scheme dealing with the complete eradication of scab in sheep and goats within this native territory, are, in my opinion, measures which have as their object the cleaning of all those animals which are taken across our border and removed to an adjoining State. It is unquestionably in our own interest to do everything in our power to keep the markets for our live-stock open, but such is only possible by presenting animals all of which are quite free from contagious diseases. The Cape Colony is already practically closed to our sheep, and I have not much hope that the Government of the Orange River Colony will long continue their policy of paying for ports of entry which, in the first place, benefit the Basuto.

(5) Of other diseases which are of particular interest I may mention *horse-sickness*, as this plague has, during the past autumn, carried off a few horses—an occurrence which indeed is very rare, and shows how virulent this scourge has been in the other less fortunate colonies.

(a) Contagious and infectious diseases amongst *poultry* are also by no means uncommon in Basutoland, and not infrequently they cause very considerable loss to keepers of these useful animals. Worthy of special notice were, during the past year, outbreaks of a most virulent hæmorrhagic enteritis, affecting chiefly

turkeys, which here are often seen in large troops. As this pest is exceedingly fatal, having a mortality of at least 90 per cent., a bacteriological investigation into the nature of the malady would be particularly interesting. Fowls are also susceptible, whilst ducks, geese, and pigeons seem to enjoy an immunity.

I have only mentioned the most important diseases observed by me, leaving alone those of minor interest, as for instance strangles and lymphangitis in horses, gall-sickness and actinomyces in cattle, gylzickte and jag-sickness in sheep, or measles in pigs.

(b) *Ordinary Ailments in Stock.*

During the past year I have in a considerable number of cases (1,207) given advice, free of charge, either verbally or by letter with regard to maladies common amongst all animals, such as disorders or inflammations of various organs. I have also in many cases given surgical help, and amongst these are 73 castrations. As the country is teeming with useless stallions, I have rather encouraged the natives to bring their entires to me, wishing to demonstrate to them that this operation, when properly performed, involves practically no risk. Although professional work is best done by professional men, I believe that, in the absence of such, a not inconsiderable amount of good could be done by instructing a number of suitable men in each district in a reliable method of emasculating farmstock. The necessary instruments could be supplied to them, and they would of course be entitled to a remuneration payable by the owners of the animals thus operated upon.

(c) *Stock Department.*

(a) *Stallions.*—Unfortunately one of the Arabs imported from India some years back was struck by lightning in his stable at Butha Buthe and died, so that the number of sires was during the past year again reduced and now amounts to nine. The killed stallion was Sahid, an animal only 7-8 years old. Kohat, who, in exchange for the Arab Beecham, has been on loan to the Government of the Orange River Colony, returned from the stud farm Tweespruit, and is stationed at Mafeteng.

On the whole the health of these stallions has been satisfactory, only two of them, viz., Kohat and Farsang, undergoing a somewhat lengthy veterinary treatment. We possess, as far as I know, no detailed description of all our stallions, giving colour, marks, age, height, together with any other remarks of special interest, such as condition, defects, diseases, &c., and I would advise that such a list be made. Furthermore, their progeny should be booked and carefully examined, not, however, on an Agricultural Show day, which leaves not sufficient time for this important work. Judging and comparing the foals would allow the

drawing of conclusions as to the quality of our stallions, of which we know practically nothing. They served each from 15 to 53 mares, the average being 34, a number which cannot be considered encouraging. How many foals are year by year produced would be most interesting to know, but unfortunately the register is found wanting in this respect. As the services of our stallions are given free of any charge, it would be desirable to inquire into the reason why they are not more patronised.

(b) *Bulls*.—Basutoland being a grand cattle country, steps should, as soon as possible, be taken to improve our breeds, which are undersized, badly built, and poor milkers. A beginning should be made in our magistracies by placing at the disposal of cattle-owners suitable bulls, selected from well-known good milking strains. Frieslanders would be very acceptable and would, I am sure, prove to be more valuable and more beneficial to the general public than anything else yet imported for the improvement of our live stock.

(c) *Sheep-rams*.—The introduction of suitable rams for our flocks of sheep was continued during the past year, the majority (80) of animals being purchased at Glencairn in the Division of Cathcart. The general appearance of the veld on this fine estate, its altitude, and climate are identical with that of Basutoland, and its rams, which are of the Rambouillet type, are therefore easily acclimatised. Altogether the sum of £500 has been spent for this purpose, an amount which, I believe, was originally intended for the purchase of both sheep and Angora rams, but was hardly large enough to be divided in this manner. Thus sheep-breeding, which is not only an older and more widespread industry but is also better suited for our grassy and often frost and snow swept mountain slopes and valleys, received the full benefit of this sum, putting off, for a while, the improvement of our Angora flocks, the owners of which, I have no doubt, also deserve our sympathy and consideration.

(d) *Agricultural Shows* were again held in various districts, Maseru included. The necessity, especially in the latter place, of a sufficiently large and properly fitted up showground is very evident, if we are desirous of making such exhibitions what they ought to be, viz., valuable object-lessons for the breeders of stock and the Government, instead of mere huge gatherings for man and beast. Once these facilities are granted, we could use more discretion in the selection of our judges of live stock, whose reports and advice would prove most valuable to the country.

(e) *Stud-farm*.—Basutoland being one of the finest stock-breeding and agricultural countries, the establishment of a Government farm, where our stud stock can be housed and shown and even made use of for breeding purposes during certain periods of the year, should form the object of serious consideration. Such a farm, which by no means requires a big area nor insuperably large funds, could with palpable advantage to this nation serve at the same time as a training school for our

more intelligent native youths. Whilst industrial schools are thought indispensable, and rightly so, our biggest and most important industries, in which the vast majority of our inhabitants are engaged daily, may well claim attention and fostering. Breeding live-stock and tilling the soil are pursuits which, without suitable teaching and practical instruction, cannot be expected to make headway.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

My clerical duties have been somewhat heavy, having despatched during the past financial year 509 official notes, letters, reports, telegrams, or certificates.

It gave me genuine pleasure to peruse the circular issued during February by His Excellency the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Lord Elgin, and dealing with the appointment of veterinary surgeons with the special object "to put veterinary matters on a better footing." The remarks made therein exactly hit the proverbial nail on its head, and they are therefore worthy of the most careful study. It must in this respect be remembered that Basutoland has horses, cattle, sheep, and goats valued at probably four to five million pounds sterling, that contagious diseases are on the increase, that the adjoining States view this position with growing suspicion, and that we possess no veterinary department which could, throughout the land, take care of the live stock and assist the inhabitants. There is only one Government veterinary officer, a sort of professional adviser without much responsibility or authority, with undefined duties, without any assistance whatever, without most of the necessities usually placed at the disposal of such officials, with insufficient travelling and subsistence allowance, and without legal claim to a pension for services rendered.

I have, &c.,

OTTO HENNING,
Government Veterinary Officer.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
523	Ashanti	1906
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
47	Do.	Do. 1905-6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Mineral Survey.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 538.

BECHUANALAND PRO-
TECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 517.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1907.



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WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. ;
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or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1907.

[Cd. 3729-2] Price 1d.

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No. 538.

BECHUANALAND PRO-
TECTORATE.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 517.)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

High Commissioner's Office,
Johannesburg,
2nd September, 1907.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to transmit to you the accompanying Blue Book of the Bechuanaland Protectorate for the year 1906-1907, together with the covering report of the Government Secretary.

I have, &c.,

SELBORNE,

High Commissioner.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
K.G., G.C.S.I.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BECHUANALAND PRO-
TECTORATE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue collected during the year ended 31st March, 1907, amounted to a sum of £29,047 5s. 11d., being £47 5s. 11d. more than was estimated, and the expenditure came to £77,111 16s., showing a saving on the approved estimates of £1,525 4s.

The resulting deficiency was met by an Imperial grant in aid of £44,000.

The following table shows the revenue collected during the past five years :—

	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	12,399	13,355	9,867	9,764	9,821
Hut tax	9,446	10,566	11,529	11,268	11,606
Licences	1,964	2,497	2,638	2,515	2,716
Revenue stamps	195	245	291	246	232
Posts	3,533	3,833	3,351	3,387	3,350
Sales of Government property.	578	489	617	310	340
Sundries	2,816	1,458	2,483	1,163	982
Total	30,931	32,443	30,776	28,653	29,047

The sum collected under the head of Customs, although slightly in excess of that of the previous year, cannot be considered satisfactory, particularly when it is remembered that in the total is an amount of £450 derived from the imposition of a new duty of 9s. per imperial proof gallon on colonial spirits distilled from the produce of the vine imported into the Protectorate. Had it not been for this unexpected addition, there would have been a serious shortfall under this head.

The figures for the years 1902-3 and 1903-4 are unduly large owing to replenishment of exhausted stocks depleted during the war and to the steps taken by traders in the Protectorate, in common with commercial houses throughout South Africa to

put their businesses in a position to cope with the expansion of trade which all anticipated would follow the termination of hostilities. That severe depression, instead of commercial activity, was what actually occurred is well known to everyone, and has been faithfully evidenced by the revenue returns of all the South African colonies and territories during the past two or three years. The Protectorate suffered in common with the rest of South Africa from the collapse in trade and scarcity of money, but not, I think, to a very serious extent, and it is to another cause that one must look for an explanation of the fact that the receipts from Customs do not increase as they might be expected to do, and as the amount paid for licences (which may, I think, be regarded to a certain extent as a barometer of trade) indicates should be the case.

The true reason, I believe, to be a steady increase in the importation of articles grown, produced, or manufactured within the South African Customs Union which under the Convention are admitted duty free. Unfortunately, prior to the establishment of the South African Customs Statistical Bureau in July, 1905, little was done to obtain statistics bearing on the subject, but such information as is obtainable points to the conclusion mentioned.

The figures published by the Statistical Bureau show that during the year ended the 31st of December, 1906, the total Imports into the Protectorate amounted in value to £118,322, of which no less than £44,636 represents the value of articles produced or manufactured within the Customs Union. Some of the items which go to make up the return are interesting and instructive. Thus it appears that of articles of food and drink, British South Africa was able to supply £619 worth of beer as against £156 worth from overseas; £523 worth of coffee as against £920; £16,892 worth of corn and grain as compared with £130; fish, preserved, £208 as against £10; brandy £1,097 as against £104, and sugar £4,551 as against £899. Amongst other items I find furniture, South African, £266, overseas £648; boots and shoes, South African, £844, overseas £2,819; saddlery and harness, South African, £242, overseas £113; matches, South African, £314, overseas £4; tobacco, South African, £1,290, overseas £455, and soap, South African, £805, overseas £996. It will appear clearly from these figures that however valuable and important to the Protectorate is its inclusion in the South African Customs Union, the tariff framed under the Convention is by no means an unqualified success, regarded simply as a means of providing revenue. As a matter of fact, excepting for the clothes upon his back, which so far do not appear to be manufactured in South Africa, the person of simple tastes who does not desire American or Egyptian tobacco, Java coffee, China tea, French brandy, Scotch whisky, or West Indian sugar, practically escapes taxation under the present Customs Union tariff.

The expenditure incurred during the past five years is shown in the following table:—

—	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7
	£	£	£	£	£
Pensions	474	544	513	576	550
Resident Commissioner ...	3,272	3,497	3,789	3,608	3,644
Legal	1,353	1,462	1,785	1,588	1,511
District administration ...	3,058	3,081	3,472	3,331	3,492
Posts	2,624	2,613	2,994	2,490	2,546
Customs	407	407	413	241	240
Police	39,760	32,341	34,516	33,325	35,040
Miscellaneous	3,136	3,392	3,802	3,384	3,416
Public works, recurrent ...	1,446	1,504	1,717	1,860	1,710
Public works, extraordinary	1,302	4,502	3,613	1,683	1,902
Medical	368	497	621	826	404
Rinderpest	398	576	98	—	—
Railway subsidy	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Demarcation of boundary ...	988	7,922	123	359	—
Education	—	600	650	823	813
Despatch vessels	4	—	—	—	—
Census	—	—	155	—	—
Veterinary	—	—	—	689	721
High Commissioner's visit...	—	—	—	—	1,122
Total	78,590	82,938	78,261	74,783	77,111

These figures do not call for particular comment. They show an increase of expenditure for the year 1906 of £2,328 over that of the previous year which is attributable to the necessity of increasing the number of, and providing additional equipment for, the Police in connection with affairs in Ngamiland, and to the cost of the High Commissioner's visit to the Protectorate.

The year 1906-7 sees the last payment of the full £20,000 as Railway Subsidy and by September, 1908, the last payment in this connection will have been made. With the disappearance of this item and the increase of the Hut Tax from ten shillings to one pound per hut, a very material reduction in the annual Grant-in-Aid will, it is hoped, be possible. At the same time in a territory the size of the Bechuanaland Protectorate,—it is seldom realised that it actually equals the Cape Colony in extent,—and in a country of its slight development, it is especially true that it is the unexpected that happens and prophecy, always a risky matter, becomes particularly hazardous.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

On the 31st of March, 1907, the excess of assets over liabilities amounted to £4,826 13s. 7d., making a reduction of approximately £4,000 from the figures of the previous year.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Bechuanaland Protectorate is in the enviable position of having no public debt. Unfortunately, however, this state of affairs is not attributable to a nice adjustment between local revenue and expenditure, but to the fact that an Imperial grant is made annually towards the cost of administration.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Police barracks were built at Molapolole, in place of huts which were accidentally destroyed by fire, at a cost of £200; additional rooms were added to existing buildings at Francistown at a cost of £196; at Gaberones a wagon shed, a stable, and a bathroom at the hospital were erected for £391; and a sum of £619 4s. 10d. was spent in providing a supply of water for the station at Gaberones.

With reference to the last item only partial success has been achieved. For years the only water supply has been obtained from a well sunk on the bank of the Notwani River—a river in name only excepting during a few weeks in the year—from which it was pumped by hand and subsequently distributed by means of a water cart drawn by oxen to the various Government buildings and quarters nearly a mile away. It was hoped that water might be found by sinking with a jumper drill at some spot near the camp, and, if possible, at a higher level from which distribution could be effected, after first pumping into a tank, by gravitation. The Government owns 3,000 morgen (6,000 acres) round Gaberones the value of which would have been greatly increased had a good supply of water been found away from the river bed. Authority was accordingly sought, and obtained to incur the necessary expenditure and a contract was made with a Water Boring Syndicate to sink for water at such spots as should be pointed out. Unfortunately the search proved futile. Several likely places were chosen and bore holes put down, but in no case was any water found before striking granite—the bed rock of the country—in which it is hopeless to look for it. The money spent on actual boring was of course wasted—except for the information and experience gained—but with the balance some useful work was carried out. The old well on the Notwani was deepened and repaired and a windmill pump was erected which pumps the water up into a service tank erected in the camp from which it is taken by pipes to the various buildings.

LEGISLATION.

By Order in Council of the 9th of May, 1891, power was conferred upon the High Commissioner for South Africa to legislate by Proclamation in the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

In the exercise of this authority the following Proclamations were issued by His Excellency during the year 1906-7.

1906.

- No. 2, 12th May, 1906.—Applying the “ Estates Administration Act, 1895,” of the Cape Colony.
- No. 5, 29th May, 1906.—Making provision to check the destruction of giraffe.
- No. 6, 19th June, 1906.—Amending Proclamation No. 5.
- No. 9, 24th June, 1906.—Customs—repealing existing law and publishing new Tariff.
- No. 11, 20th June, 1906.—Providing for compulsory attendance of witnesses from neighbouring Colonies.
- No. 17a, 19th July, 1906.—Declaring certain marriages to be valid.
- No. 21, 14th September, 1906.—Repealing Proclamation of the 30th June, 1891.
- No. 23, 9th October, 1906.—Prohibiting the introduction of dogs from German South-West Africa.
- No. 25, 5th December, 1906.—Providing for the detention of Sekgoma.
- No. 26, 5th December, 1906.—Providing for the granting of Pensions.
- No. 28, 22nd December, 1906.—Amending Proclamation No. 9 of 1906.

1907.

- No. 1, 1st January, 1907.—Increasing the amount payable as Hut Tax.
- No. 2, 6th January, 1907.—Providing for the prevention of the destruction of game.
- No. 3, 14th February, 1907.—Amending Proclamation No. 2.
- No. 7, 28th February, 1907.—Providing for the Registration of brands.

Proclamation No. 26 of 1906, which provides for the granting of pensions and superannuation and other allowances to Europeans in the service of the Protectorate, has afforded very great satisfaction to all concerned. Owing to the length of time which had elapsed since the present Administration was established, in November, 1895, and to the fact that several officials in the Protectorate had previously been the holders of pensionable offices in the old Crown Colony of British Bechuanaland, the absence of a Pensions Proclamation had for long been regarded with a concern which has now been happily removed.

Proclamation No. 1 of 1907 provides for the increase of the amount payable as hut tax from 10s. to £1. It was felt that

ample notice of the increase should be given, and although the Proclamation was published last January, the change will not actually take place until next year.

Prior to the issue of the Proclamation, the Resident Commissioner visited each of the paramount chiefs (excepting Mathibi in Ngamiland), and explained to them and their people assembled in "kgotla" the intentions of the Government in the matter. The news, although naturally not of a character calculated to please, was everywhere received without any manifestations of serious objection. The natives evidently feel that they have been fortunate in only having had to pay 10s. in the past and are prepared with cheerful resignation to pay the larger sum in future.

EDUCATION.

Little actual progress in education can be recorded during the year. As on previous occasions, a grant of £650 was made to the London Missionary Society in aid of their schools in the Protectorate and of the Industrial Training Institute at Tiger Kloof near Vryburg in the Cape Colony. A sum of £100 was also paid to the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, which has for long carried on educational work in the Bakhatla Reserve.

During the year an interesting report on education in the Protectorate was prepared by Mr. E. B. Sargant, at one time Educational Adviser to the High Commissioner. In Mr. Sargant's opinion the principal want is an adequate supply of natives sufficiently advanced to efficiently perform the duties of teachers, and he submitted proposals for the training of such teachers.

The matter is under consideration, but as yet nothing definite has been decided on.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

As has already been mentioned in this report, the total value of Imports into the Protectorate during the year ended the 31st of December last amounted to £118,322.

According to figures supplied by the South African Customs Statistical Bureau, the value of articles exported during the same period totalled £41,516. To this, however, should be added the value of 3,622 head of cattle which were exported during the same period, but which do not appear in the return. Ten pounds a head would probably be a reasonable value to put upon them, which brings the total value of exports to £77,736, being £40,586 less than the imports.

GENERAL.

Unlike the year 1905-6, the period covered by this report was one of considerable importance in the history of the Protectorate.

Early in the year the High Commissioner paid a visit to the territory. His Excellency proceeded to Crocodile Pools by rail, and there, on the 14th of April, he met the chiefs of the Southern Protectorate. The meeting was an impressive one, both on account of the numbers present and of the evident enthusiasm with which they welcomed the representative of His Majesty the King. Each chief, subsequently to the public meeting, was received privately by Lord Selborne, with whom he discussed various matters affecting himself and his people. Later, the High Commissioner travelled by rail to Palapye Road, from which place he drove to Serowe, Khama's capital, a native town containing, it is estimated, 17,000 inhabitants. The Bamangwato gave the High Commissioner a most enthusiastic greeting, lining the road in masses and cheering and clapping their hands as His Excellency passed. After a stay of three or four days at Serowe, Lord Selborne proceeded to Francistown, the only European town—or village as it should now properly be called—in the Protectorate. A stay of a few days, of which a couple were devoted to shooting in the neighbourhood, brought the visit to a close, and the High Commissioner returned by train to Johannesburg.

The chiefs and people were delighted at the opportunity of seeing and meeting His Majesty's representative, and the event is one which they will remember and of which they will speak for years.

A question of the succession to the chieftainship of the Batawana, the tribe occupying the region of Lake Ngami, became acute in the early part of the year, and led to the Resident Commissioner personally visiting the lake. This necessitated a long and wearisome journey of over 500 miles by wagon across the Kalahari Desert. After completing his task in Ngamiland, Mr. Williams trekked from the Botletle River, through country scarcely ever before traversed by Europeans, to the Chobe, which he followed to its junction with the Zambesi at Kazingula, and from there he proceeded to the Victoria Falls. From the Falls, a comfortable journey of less than 48 hours by rail, saw him back in Mafeking after an absence of nearly four months.

During his absence, Mr. Williams had been offered the appointment of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Windward Islands, and very soon after his return to Mafeking he proceeded to England on leave prior to taking up his new appointment.

He was succeeded as Resident Commissioner by Lieutenant-Colonel Panzera who, since August, 1901, had been Assistant Commissioner in the Northern Protectorate. Captain Daniel, previously an Inspector in the Police, succeeded as Assistant Commissioner, and his step enabled Sub-Inspector Merry, who as Acting Magistrate in Ngamiland had done good service under difficult conditions, to be promoted to Inspector. These appointments giving, as they do, promotion to quite a considerable proportion of the small Protectorate service, have naturally given much satisfaction. Of the general condition of the Bechuanaland Protectorate there is little to report.

Thanks to stringent regulations, carried out as strictly as the means available allow of, success continued to attend the efforts of the Administration to save the country from an invasion of East Coast fever. The disease has been got under complete control in Rhodesia, once regarded as our principal source of danger, but its increase in the Western Transvaal has added to the risk of introduction from that colony.

The natives have again succeeded in reaping crops which, if not abundant, have, at any rate, put them beyond any fear of actual want. At one time, thanks to unusually good rains, it appeared that the harvest would have been better than for many years, but, unfortunately, locusts, a scourge under which all South Africa is at present suffering, destroyed a great many of the crops.

BARRY MAY,
Government Secretary.

Mafeking,
10th August, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
508	Somaliland	1905-1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent	1905-1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"
513	Basutoland	1905-1906
514	British Guiana	"
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905-1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 568.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 528.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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[Cd. 3729—32.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 568.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 528.)

THE GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bermuda,
19th May, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1907, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

JOSCELINE WODEHOUSE,
Lieutenant-General, Governor and
Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda,

20th April, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £67,538, being £14,325 more than the revenue for 1906, which was £53,213.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1907 with that for 1906:—

Revenue.

Year.				Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
				£	£	£
1906	...	...	...	37,269	15,944	53,213
1907	...	...	...	53,798	13,740	67,538
Decrease...	...	...	...	—	2,204	—
Increase ...	...	...	...	16,529	—	14,325

Expenditure.

Year.				Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total
				£	£	£
1907	...	...	...	23,529	35,643	59,172
1906	...	...	...	23,496	45,568	69,064
Increase ...	...	...	...	33	—	—
Decrease...	...	...	...	—	9,925	9,892

The return of revenue for the year under review shows that there was an increase in the gross receipts, as compared with those in 1906, amounting to £14,325. The increase in "Customs Duties" amounted to £16,529. The increase in revenue was due to an increase made in the ad valorem customs duty from 5 per cent. and 6½ per cent. to 10 per cent., and also to an increase in some of the specific duties. Included in the total revenue, viz., £67,538, is a sum of £4,508, being a loan

repaid to the Treasury by the Savings Bank. If this sum be deducted, the revenue received from ordinary sources during the year was £63,030.

The revenue, which amounted to £67,538 14s. 10d., was made up as follows:—

			Amount.		
			£	s.	d.
Ad valorem duty	...	...	34,436	3	3
Specific duty	...	...	19,362	5	3
Other receipts	...	...	13,740	6	4
Total	...	...	£67,538	14	10

Heads of Increase.

			Amount.		
			£	s.	d.
Ad valorem duty	...	...	16,002	14	10
Bananas	...	...	10	17	3
Cigars and cigarettes	...	...	822	18	1
Eggs	...	...	408	16	6
Lighthouse tolls	...	...	353	4	0
Postal revenue	...	...	682	14	11
Tobacco	...	...	761	3	4
Wines	...	...	67	10	10

Heads of Decrease.

			Amount.		
			£	s.	d.
Arrowroot	...	...	122	19	8
Bicycles	...	...	8	0	0
Fines of Court	...	...	27	0	0
Loans to Savings Bank—repayment of	...	...	2,494	10	10
Miscellaneous receipts	...	...	16	11	1
Malt liquor	...	...	523	15	5
Rum	...	...	470	11	3
Other spirits	...	...	1,035	9	11
Oxen and cows	...	...	111	16	0
Reimbursements to Government	...	...	627	1	11

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items:—

			Amount.		
			£	s.	d.
Colonial Secretary	...	...	1,094	6	3
Educational	...	...	212	6	2
Agriculture	...	...	933	13	0
Gaols	...	...	322	9	0

Expenditure—cont.

				Amount.		
				£	s.	d.
Legislative	...	...	...	225	17	6
Miscellaneous payments	...	...	...	7,012	14	7
Post Office	...	...	...	801	1	0
Superannuation	...	...	...	688	18	8
Pilotage	...	...	...	16	10	4
Public health	...	...	...	465	17	10
Library and museum	...	...	...	376	18	7
Lunatic asylum	...	...	...	279	1	5
Registration of births, &c.	...	...	...	175	8	6
Receiver-General	...	...	...	1,713	9	0
Public Debt	...	...	...	402	2	6
Volunteers	...	...	...	200	0	0

Principal Heads of Decrease.

				Amount.		
				£	s.	d.
Colonial Surveyor	...	...	...	1,773	11	10
Immigration	...	...	...	46	3	10
Ecclesiastical	...	...	...	130	4	4
Savings Bank (advances to)	...	...	...	144	12	1

(B.) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.		Revenue.		Expenditure.	
		£.		£.	
1903	...	57,169	...	55,503	
1904	...	63,457	...	61,133	
1905	...	53,321	...	65,307	
1906	...	53,213	...	69,064	
1907	...	67,538	...	59,172	

The cash balance in hand on the 31st December, 1907, was £8,712, as against £293 at the end of 1906, and £16,144 at the end of 1905. As shown in the foregoing table, the expenditure for the year 1907 was £9,872 less than in 1906.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1906 were as follows:—

				£	s.	d.
Cash in the Treasury				8,712	0	0
Advances made to Savings Bank on account of interest, cost of management, &c.				1,799	0	8
Total				£10,511	0	8

There were no liabilities on 31st December, 1907, beyond the Public Debt, which is separately dealt with.

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of 1907 amounted to £46,100, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures...	600

On £40,000 of the local inscribed stock the rate of interest is $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The twelfth instalment of £1,000, payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments, amounting to £2,250, towards the sinking fund created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600. According to the tenor and effect of the debentures now outstanding, they are redeemable as follows:—1908, £500; 1909, £100.

All the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.) CURRENCY.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes and United States "green backs." The number of these latter notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally (although not at the banks) at a premium, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's

Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £1,000) in 1907 was £410,596.

Compared with 1906, this shows an increase of £12,420. The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1903 to 1907, inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other. British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903 ...	539,688	172,347	65,637	9,457	289,239	3,008
1904 ...	590,000	190,995	86,150	12,705	295,054	5,096
1905 ...	543,222	179,050	81,146	12,409	264,797	5,820
1906 ...	398,176	111,993	55,451	9,757	218,202	2,773
1907 ...	410,596	111,831	72,388	6,317	215,794	4,266

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, military, and naval—is not included.

The value of the principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1907, compared with 1906, was:—

Article.	Value.	
	1907. £	1906. £
Clothing	12,488	17,180
Cotton goods... ..	14,441	17,886
Fancy goods... ..	2,611	1,634
Oilmen's stores	6,937	10,778
Silk goods	5,233	5,046
Rice	1,697	1,620
Sugar	1,538	1,623
Coals	—	260
Woollen goods	8,412	6,893
Machinery	565	712
Metal manufactures	650	452
Malt liquor	14,410	14,201
Whisky	1,590	2,051
Wine	2,559	2,048

Article.	Value.	
	1907.	1906.
	£	£
Hardware	2,028	1,547
Building material	979	1,655
Drugs	869	1,263
Earthenware	1,075	967
Glassware	921	816
Stationery	1,259	1,123
Jewellery	3,284	2,118
Leather, manufactured	1,668	1,491
Cigars and Cigarettes	2,569	2,280

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom for the year 1907 was £121,831, as against £116,993 in 1906, and £179,050 in 1905.

The principal imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1907.	1906.
	£	£
Box material... ..	4,660	3,302
Butter	11,471	9,824
Fish (preserved)	4,643	5,017
Flour... ..	10,749	5,671
Horses	740	230
Bran	2,755	2,286
Cheese	2,934	2,390
Hay	3,508	2,393
Oats	8,646	5,963
Potatoes	3,718	2,398

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1907 was £72,388, being £16,937 more than in 1906. There was an increase in the value of imports under almost every heading, especially in butter, flour, and box material used for crates for onions and market garden produce.

The following table shows the value of imports from Canada (declared) during the last ten years:—

Year.	Value.	
	£	
1898	30,611	
1899	33,119	
1900	—	
1901	41,167	
1902	52,131	
1903	65,693	
1904	86,150	
1905	81,146	
1906	55,451	
1907	72,388	

This table shows that with the exception of the years 1906 and 1907 there has been a steady increase in the value of

imports from Canada. It has been suggested to me that the great drop in the value of the imports in 1906 was to a certain extent due to the fact that the contractor supplying bread to the naval and military establishments for that year may have either imported American flour or imported Canadian flour through New York, and the flour so imported was shown as imports from the United States. I have not been able to verify this suggestion.

During the year beef in quarters to the value of £13,590 was imported from the United States, as against no importations whatever from Canada. Oxen and cows to the value of £14,225 were imported from the United States, as against £1,914 from Canada. Meat is expensive in Bermuda, and there would appear to be an opening for competition by Canada with importations from the United States.

Corn or maize to the value of £5,470 was imported from the United States, as against corn to the value of £9 from Canada.

The principal imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1907. £	1906. £
Beef	13,590	5,725
Bran	3,323	3,381
Butter	4,480	7,170
Coals	8,048	6,606
Cotton goods... ..	6,311	8,460
Fertilizers	10,925	4,243
Fancy goods... ..	1,283	2,038
Flour	10,834	10,314
Canned fruit and meats	4,745	4,054
Groceries	5,259	6,694
Hardware	4,915	4,251
Leather, manufactured	11,080	10,786
Lumber	4,502	5,730
Kerosene oil	6,240	6,373
Oats	3,084	4,494
Provisions	16,376	19,639
Oxen and cows	14,225	22,908
Sheep	2,526	3,769
Sugar	5,820	4,423
Tobacco	1,756	675
Building material ...	2,870	3,204
Carriages	718	754
Hay	482	1,220
Cheese	1,242	1,873
Clothing	4,519	3,331
Corn	5,470	4,985
Drugs	2,885	4,027
Furniture	5,174	3,894
Metal, manufactured	1,900	3,016
Horses	1,290	1,142
Machinery	2,726	1,350

The total value of imports from the United States of America for the year was £215,794, as against £218,202, in 1906, and £264,797 in 1905.

During the year 37,080 dozen eggs, at a declared value of £2,075, fruit valued at £3,941, and fresh vegetables valued at £1,375 were imported into the Colony.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £9,977) in 1907 was £130,621.

Compared with 1906, this shows an increase of £9,326, and an increase by £9,720 on the average of the preceding five years.

Included in the exports was 5,646 tons of old iron, of a declared value of £5,052. Of this, 3,720 tons was exported to Germany, valued at £3,000. This latter was the part proceeds of the old Admiralty floating dock, which has been sold to a firm in Hamburg.

The following is a comparative table of the value of exports (exclusive of specie) for the five years from 1903 to 1907, inclusive:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903 ...	3,806	5,032	4,256	112,249	—	125,343
1904 ...	3,785	4,606	3,710	118,184	—	130,305
1905 ...	4,727	2,973	5,031	103,508	189	116,428
1906 ...	31,927	1,339	3,340	83,717	972	121,295
1907 ...	1,831	542	6,697	128,528	3,000	140,598

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1907, compared with 1906, were:—

Article.	1907.	Value.	1906.
	£		£
Arrowroot	470	...	1,194
Bulbs	—	...	613
Hides	45	...	575
Tallow	132	...	304

The principal exports to the United States were:—

Article.	1907.	Value.	1906.
	£		£
Bulbs	9,593	...	8,199
Hides	952	...	1,046
Onions	62,364	...	44,066
Potatoes	28,236	...	15,101
Miscellaneous vegetables ...	11,306	...	6,074

The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £115,255, as against £79,601 for 1906.

(B.) MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

Manufactures.

There are two ice factories, which manufacture most of the ice consumed locally.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this commodity.

Bermuda arrowroot apparently continues to hold its premier place in home and foreign markets. The price (retail) per lb. in London is about 2s. 6d., as compared with 1s. 9d. per lb. for St. Vincent and other arrowroot. The cultivation and manufacture of this product could be increased, and would add materially to the agricultural prosperity of these Islands.

A factory for the manufacture of cigars from imported tobacco was established in Hamilton in 1906, and now supplies the bulk of cigars locally consumed. This industry has caused a decline in the quantities of cigars imported, and a consequent loss of revenue. The value of cigars imported for 1907, as compared with 1905, was for 1905 £4,508, and for 1907 £1,346.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these Islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, &c., to New York in the early part of the year is increasing gradually.

The potato crop for 1907 was a large one, and there was a good demand on the New York markets at remunerative prices.

The quantities exported were as follows:—32,860 barrels and 37 crates, of a declared value of £28,864. The quantity exported in 1906 was 18,089 barrels and 237 crates, of a declared value of £15,281.

The onion crop was a good one but not so large as that produced in 1905, although the declared value in 1907 was higher.

The quantity and declared value of onions exported in 1907 was as follows:—320,699 crates and 384 barrels, of a declared value of £63,189. The export of this product in 1906 was 239,064 crates and 242 barrels, of a declared value of

£44,776, and in 1905, 399,916 crates and 137 barrels, of a declared value of £62,465.

The lily bulb crop was again a small one, although there was a distinct advance from the figures for the preceding year, both as regards the number exported and declared value. The quantity and declared value of the export of this product was as follows:—6,399 packages, of a declared value of £9,612, as against 5,093 packages, valued at £8,860, in 1906, and 8,945 packages, valued at £7,264, in 1905.

The quantity and declared value of arrowroot exported in 1907 was 2 tons 18 cwt., valued at £517, as compared with 9 tons, valued at £1,240, in 1906, and 5 tons, valued at £840, in 1905.

The quantity and value of green vegetables, other than potatoes and onions, exported during 1907, as compared with 1906, is as follows:—

1906—48,605 packages, valued at £6,079.

1907—87,911 packages, valued at £11,057.

In 1904 and 1905 the export was, respectively, 29,038 packages, valued at £3,637, and 48,155 packages, valued at £6,046. The steady increase in this industry is very gratifying.

(D.) PUBLIC GARDEN.

I am indebted to the Superintendent of the Public Garden for the following notes on the work of his department for the past year:—

“The Botanical Department is assuming more and more a position of importance in the economic development of Bermuda, and is steadily endeavouring to eliminate the weak spots of the present industries, laying the foundations of new ones, and bringing about the utilization of the local forces with a view to improving the Colony as a residential country.

“The cultivation of fruit, neglected for forty years on account of the fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*), bids fair to become an important feature. The Fruit Fly Destruction Act came into force on the 1st of March, 1907, and has already passed the experimental stage. There is every indication that the work was planned, and is proceeding on sound lines, and if brought to a successful issue the value of this service to the Colony should be great. The peach crop alone, ripening in May and June, within two days of New York, should prove to be a good asset of the Colony. There are 54 kinds of fruit trees growing in Bermuda, not including bananas and strawberries.

“The United States Department of Agriculture very kindly furnished three young budded plants of loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) of the following varieties:—‘Limocella,’ from Italy; ‘St. Michel Round,’ from Algeria; and a variety from Sicily, No. 12,832. Buds of a fine variety, selected from a

batch of seedlings, put on in April, 1907, at the Public Garden, grew into fine trees in one season.

"The work under the Fruit Fly Destruction Act is being followed with much interest by Dr. Howard, of the United States Department of Agriculture, and we are indebted to him for support and advice, and for the identification of a larger fruit fly, bred out of some Guavas from Dominica, British West Indies, which were seized by the Customs authorities on importation contrary to the provisions of the Act. These flies proved to be '*Anastrephas acidusa*.'

"At the Public Garden, nurseries of young fruit trees have been prepared for distribution, and improved varieties imported for propagation and information, re-planting, and cultivation, will be published in due course, and examples maintained.

"Improvements in field cultivation, soil management, dealing with fungus diseases, and selection of an early ripening type of onions for seed cultivation in Teneriffe have received attention. Seeds of the specially selected early type of onion are now being grown by Mr. Peter S. Reid in Teneriffe.

"The lily bulb industry is gradually recovering itself under the direction of the Department, the weakest point now being the unrestricted export of bulbs not true to type, and falsely marked. A Pure Seed Law in the United States, parallel to the Pure Food Law, would bring the mixed bulb industry in Bermuda to an abrupt conclusion. At present the sale of selected stock true to type is being hampered, prices kept down, and confidence in the trade jeopardized. An inspection before exportation is recommended. At the Public Garden the various types have been grown in separate beds, and photographs have been sent to the Florists' Exchange in America, and bulbs sent to the Royal Gardens, Kew, to be grown on and identified. Experiments are being conducted in the raising of seedlings of *Lilium Harrisii*, and the selection of improved types from hybrid seedlings.

"Further efforts towards the establishment of an export trade in Canary bananas have taken the form of supervising the planting and care of plots of land under banana cultivation in different parts of the Colony, advising the planters from time to time how to proceed.

"The strawberry industry is expanding rapidly; close upon 200,000 plants have been imported, and shipments from those planted last year are nearly ready to go forward. A plot containing 50 plants of each of 110 varieties has been planted at the Public Garden.

"The green vegetable industry has been assisted by tests of varieties and the distribution of plants to growers and to those who desire to make trials before engaging in it on a larger scale.

"The experiment in the cultivation and curing of wrapper tobacco was continued and completed, and the crop baled and stored for the final stage, *i.e.*, maturing. It is considered

inadvisable to send out samples immediately after the fermentation, for in the trade tobacco has to mature in the bale for at least a year before being used.

“One and a quarter acres were planted, but owing to an unexpected yield and want of barn space, only about a third was reaped; 1,000 lbs. weight of wrapper was finished and baled.”

The Superintendent of the Public Garden has been endeavouring by close and friendly association with some of the leading farmers to furnish good examples of field cultivation in various parts of the Colony and to assist persons in the proper laying out of gardens by advice and by supplying plants.

The appropriation made by the Legislature for services of the Public Garden, and for services in connection therewith for the year 1907, was as follows:—

		Expenditure		
		£	s.	d.
Personal Emoluments, £340	...	326	8	0
General Grant, £1,000	...	978	7	5
Cultivation of tobacco, £373 6s. 11d.		373	6	11
Destruction of insect pests, £500	...	499	14	2
Total expenditure ...		£2,177	16	6

The incidental cost of the Board of Agriculture, such as the payment of members, stationery, &c., and also the expenditure incurred on behalf of the inspection of produce and of imported bulbs, is not included in the above figures.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1907, in comparison with 1906, is shown on the following table:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

	1907.			1906.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ...	691,864	6,218	698,082	564,837	4,906	569,743
American...	5,148	8,242	13,390	563	7,317	7,885
German ...	56,876	2,106	58,982	3,724	—	3,724
Norwegian ...	27,957	1,588	29,545	4,218	3,638	7,856
Austrian ...	9,068	—	9,068	9,710	—	9,710
Dutch ...	624	—	624	94	—	94
Italian ...	9,008	—	9,008	10,970	—	10,970
Spanish ...	2,420	—	2,420	3,884	—	3,884
Greek ...	7,528	—	7,528	—	—	—
Danish ...	729	—	729	729	—	729
Total ...	811,222	18,154	829,376	611,316	16,559	627,875

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons
1903	481,085	69,544
1904	541,455	75,799
1905	593,785	87,676
1906	569,743	58,132
1907	698,082	131,294

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature was convened on the 5th day of August, 1907, and at the end of the year was still in Session. The Session which opened on the 6th June, 1906, was not closed until the 29th April, 1907.

Forty-seven Acts were passed during the year, of which the following may be taken as the most important:—

The Schools Act, 1907 (No. 1).

This measure makes certain radical changes in the constitution of the Board of Education appointed to administer the grant to aided schools, and makes provision for a larger annual amount for the purpose of assisting primary education. It makes provision for the appointment of a Secretary to the Board, relieving the Inspector of a certain amount of clerical work, and thus affording him more time for inspecting schools. Each of the nine parishes of the Colony is constituted an educational district and the Board is given authority to appoint an educational officer for each district. Authority is also given to the Board to Appoint a Local School Committee in each parish who will be required to exercise a certain amount of superintendence over the educational system and work in their respective districts. These Local Committees are intended to supersede the local Parish Vestries, who, under former Acts, were entrusted with the local administration of the law. Under this Act the school age at which attendance at school is compulsory is "between seven and thirteen" instead of "between six and thirteen"—an unfortunate change. Another important change in this Act is the power given to the Board to order the closing of schools, whether aided or not, kept in buildings which are insanitary and which, for other reasons, are objectionable.

The annual grant for the purposes of the Act was increased from £2,000 to £2,500. The comparative smallness of the

grant will seriously hamper the Board in its efforts to improve the educational system of the Colony.

The Fruit Fly Destruction Act, 1907 (No. 6).

For many years the cultivation of fruit has practically been abandoned owing to the ravages of the fly (*ceratitis capitata*). This measure appropriates a sum of money to enable the Board of Agriculture to cause the destruction of fruit and the pruning of fruit trees so as to prevent their bearing for such period as the Board deems necessary for the extermination of the fly. The Act also prohibits the importation of fruit from the West Indies, with certain exceptions, and power is given to the Governor in Council to extend this prohibition to other places.

The Alien Act, 1907 (No. 12).

Previous to the coming into operation of this Act an alien was not permitted to acquire and hold real estate in this Colony except on lease for a period not exceeding twenty-one years.

Under the provisions of this Act, subject to the following conditions, aliens may acquire and hold real estate in Bermuda in the same manner as a natural-born British subject, and title may be derived through an alien:—

- (1) The sanction of the Governor in Council is required before an alien can acquire land by deed.
- (2) The aggregate quantity of land so acquired by aliens is not to exceed 2,000 acres in the whole Colony, nor 400 acres in any parish.
- (3) An alien cannot acquire by deed more than 15,000 superficial feet of land in the city of Hamilton and town of St. George, or elsewhere to a greater extent than 10 acres except under special circumstances.

Full particulars of land acquired by aliens is required to be recorded in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

The measure also deals with the question of naturalization, and under its provisions a naturalized person is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a natural-born British subject, except the privilege of becoming a member of the Legislature.

Up to the date of this report only six aliens have taken advantage of the privilege of acquiring land, and the total quantity so held is about ten acres.

The Criminal Code Act, 1907 (No. 13).

This measure, one of considerable length, provides a Criminal Code, based to a large extent on that in force in the Colony of Queensland.

It provides a long-felt want and should prove of considerable use in simplifying the administration of Justice.

The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1907 (No. 17).

Act No. 6 of 1905 authorized the enrolment of a Volunteer Reserve. The effort to form a reserve corps failed. This

measure (No. 17 of 1907) authorizes the Governor to organize a Volunteer Cadet Corps, the main object of which is to supply recruits for the Volunteer Rifle Corps when the Cadets are old enough to enrol in that Corps.

A sum of £300 a year is provided for the joint purposes of Act No. 6 of 1905 and of this Act.

The establishment of a Cadet Corps has proved very popular, and at the present time there are 3 officers and 180 boys in the Corps, which is under the control and management of the Officer Commanding the Volunteer Rifle Corps.

The Produce Inspection Act, 1907 (No. 22).

This measure continues and amends the Act of 1906. The principal changes in this Act are requiring onions to be graded as well as potatoes, and in making some alteration in the definition of the expression "unfit for shipment," a notable one being that all uncured onions are included in that expression. It was considered necessary to make this change in the law in order to enable the Bermuda onion to compete successfully with the Texan onion, which is invariably cured.

The Supreme Court Act, 1907 (No. 43).

This measure makes a useful addition to the Statute Book by putting the law of the Colony with respect to the assignment of debts and other choses in action on the same footing as the law of England. It also makes some desirable changes in the times for holding the two ordinary sessions of the Court during the year.

A large number of the Acts passed during the year are simple continuing measures. A practice of the House of Assembly of giving all Acts a more or less short duration adds materially to the bulk of legislation and of the annual Statute Books.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—Twenty-seven aided primary schools, with 1,816 scholars (967 boys and 849 girls); school fees, £801; Government contributions, £1,611.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Nine of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers; eighteen of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d.* per week. The Legislature provided a sum of £3,255 to aid in the working of the schools and for

educational purposes generally during 1907. £2,600 of this grant is administered by a Board of Education appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an Inspector of Schools.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools, there are about 20 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls; the Convent School and the High School, for white girls.

Twenty candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last for the Bermuda Centre—one senior, nine juniors, and ten preliminary students. Of these candidates fifteen passed—eight juniors and seven preliminary. Three of the candidates obtained honours.

There are now three Bermuda Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford.

The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905, provides one scholarship annually, of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes Scholarship.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITAL.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions.

In my last report I alluded to the consideration by the Legislature of proposals for the establishment of a General Hospital. No final decision in the matter had been taken at the close of the year, although the question was still under consideration.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(B.) LUNATIC ASYLUM.

An Asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants. Ten patients (four male and six female) were admitted into

the Asylum in 1907. Four patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 58 (33 male and 25 female).

During the year the semi-detached wing of the institution referred to in my last report was finished and furnished for the reception and accommodation of a certain class of patients. The new kitchen, scullery, store-room, and dining rooms were completed and taken into use. The six new rooms added to the female side have contributed to the comfort of the female patients.

At the beginning of 1907 there were 55 patients in the Asylum, and by the end of the year the number had increased to 65.

There has been a steady increase in the number of patients in the Asylum during the last five years; and it appears likely that the accommodation in the institution must again be increased in the near future.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1907, was 1,634, having an aggregate sum of £35,723 to their credit, as compared with 1,657 depositors in 1906, having £37,586 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £10,735, as against £11,483 in 1906.

The amount of invested funds of the Bank on the 31st December, 1907, was £40,322 4s. 9d. at par, equal to £33,769 17s. 6d. at market value of consols on 31st December, 1907.

The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2 per cent.

(F.) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1907, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The regular police force consists of one inspector, three chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of The Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any

special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the Inspector of Police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1907 was:—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates) ...	3,281
Other charges	203
Total	<u>£3,484</u>

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,429.

(B.) PRISONS.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 142 (139 males and 3 females), as against 131 (126 males and 5 females), in 1906. Of these 47 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 95 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1907 was £2,339, as compared with £2,016 in 1906.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 476—a decrease, compared with 1906, of 5, and with 1905, of 38.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 404, of whom 292 were summarily convicted, 33 discharged for want of evidence, 50 acquitted, and 29 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 292 persons summarily convicted, 205 were fined, 19 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 29 peremptorily imprisoned, 13 bound over to keep the peace, 12 were whipped, and 14 dismissed without penalty.

Thirty-seven cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 26 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 28; of these, 12 were for offences against the person, and 16 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

At the census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured, 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1907 consisted of 19,299 persons, consisting of 6,718 white (3,297 males and 3,421 females), and 12,571 coloured (5,970 males and 6,541 females), a decrease, as compared with 1906, of 289 persons.

This decrease is due mainly to the excess of emigration over immigration during the year.

The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 21,561 persons.

The birth-rate was 33·7, and the death-rate, 18·7 per 1,000, among the resident civilian population.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 18·4 to 100 births.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1907 was 2,332, as compared with 2,741 in 1906, and the deaths were 6; the rate of mortality thus being 2·57 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops during 1907 was good. The average strength of the garrison was 1,202. Number of admissions to hospital, 645. Ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 536·60. Number of deaths, 5. Average number of daily sick, 35. Average strength of officers, 57; cases of sickness, 26; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 195. There was one death.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1907, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 1,130. This included men employed in the dockyard and the naval hospital.

(D.) METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·139 inches.

Mean temperature of the air, 69·9 degrees.

Mean relative humidity, 83·2 per cent.
 Mean hourly velocity of the wind, 12·6 miles.
 Total amount of rainfall, 43·34 inches.
 Difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 17·38 inches less.
 Number of days on which rain fell, 182.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

POSTAL SERVICE.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and four money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1907 was £6,022, compared with a revenue of £5,582 in 1906. The expenditure was £5,556, compared with £5,749 in 1906.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure was thus £466, as compared with a deficit of £167 in 1906.

The sum of £4,077 was paid out in the Colony on money orders, as compared with £3,546 in 1906.

The amount paid into the post office on account of money orders during the year was £8,901, as compared with £13,060 in 1906. The remittances by means of money orders to the United Kingdom amounted to £6,000, those to the West Indies, £991, to the United States £1,242, and to Canada, £667. The British postal orders issued in the Colony amounted to £6,599, as compared with £7,222 in 1906. The value of orders received and paid was £1,207.

It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,207,385; book packets and circulars, 397,679; post cards, 381,423; and parcels, 10,637. The declared value of the parcels was £17,268, and the amount of duty collected on parcels received was £1,293.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.		Revenue.	Expenditure.
		£	£
1903	...	6,515	5,336
1904	...	6,307	4,719
1905	...	5,935	5,595
1906	...	5,582	5,749
1907	...	6,022	5,556

The following is an extract from the Colonial Postmaster's report for the year 1907:—

“A comparison of the figures given in this table shows that the revenue, which had been declining since 1904, advanced in 1907, beyond the amounts shown for the years 1905 and 1906 respectively, whilst there was no corresponding increase in the expenditure, but on the contrary a decrease, which put the expenditure below that of either of the two years immediately preceding it. At the time of writing this report there are indications of a continuance of the renewed growth during 1908.”

On the 1st February, 1907, the new parcel post service under a convention between this Colony and the United States went into operation.

The Colonial Postmaster reports that judging from the number of parcels handled during the year, it is probable that this particular parcel post service will assume large proportions.

A new money order convention with the United States was concluded during the year and went into force on the 1st July, 1907. The principal changes made were the direct transmission to the offices of payment of advices of money orders issued in either country, instead of forwarding them with lists to offices of exchange, the settlement of accounts on the basis of paid orders instead of orders issued, and the abolition of the practice of allowing a commission to the country of payment.

New conventions on similar lines were also made with Canada and the Leeward Islands, which went into force on the 1st January, 1908.

A similar change, but in a modified form, was also made in the money order service with the United Kingdom.

Under the new Postal Union Convention concluded at Rome in May, 1906, certain changes in international mail service went into operation on the 1st October, 1907, notably the change in the weight for letters from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to 1 oz.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	115,865

Compared with 1906, the latter return shows a decrease of £6,090.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1907 was 1,202, and the average strength of the naval forces, 1,130.

Return of Militia:—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 238 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers:—Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps, 319 officers and men.

The expenditure during the year on account of the Militia was £2,008; and that on account of the Volunteers, £1,150. This expenditure was borne entirely by the Imperial Government.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Lieutenant-General Sir R. M. Stewart, K.C.B., relinquished the administration of the Colony on the 26th June, 1907, and on the same date Lieutenant-General J. H. Wodehouse, C.B., C.M.G., assumed the Government.

Mr. Ormond T. Middleton, Solicitor General, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 22nd April, 1907.

Mr. Henry Lockward, Assistant Justice of the Supreme Court, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 19th September, 1907.

Mr. W. H. Skeen was appointed third clerk in the post office, Hamilton, on the 8th October, 1907, vice Mr. H. C. Mercer, resigned. On the same date Mr. R. H. Higinbotham was appointed clerk in the post office, St. George's.

Mr. F. L. Godet was appointed clerk to the Board of Education on the 1st November, 1907.

IMMIGRATION.

The excess of emigration over immigration for the year 1907 is estimated to have been 618. The excess of males was 418, and of females 200. Among the civilian white population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 229 (178 males and 51 females). Among the coloured population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 389 (240 males and 149 females).

GENERAL REMARKS.

In my report for the year 1906 I alluded under this heading to causes which led me to believe that the year 1907 would be a prosperous one. My anticipations were fully realized. After meeting all claims on the Treasury the estimated balance of £8,000 on the 31st December, 1907, was exceeded by £712.

The combination formed between shippers and growers of produce during the year took concrete shape by the formation of "The Bermuda Shippers and Growers Association," which has now been incorporated. The efforts of this Association are aimed at regulating and controlling the distribution of the Colony's agricultural produce, and to market the produce to the best advantage for the benefit of all concerned. The Association claim that their efforts last year in the direction referred to met with more success than was expected, and that unusually good prices were maintained during the crop season.

The Association allege that the cultivators of onions in the Colony are now handicapped by the marketing in New York of the same commodity grown in Texas, Louisiana, and California. For many years past, the Bermuda onion has been the standard early onion in the New York market. It is claimed that at the present date, large quantities of onions are grown in the United States in the States mentioned above and are sold in the New York market as Bermuda onions.

The successful cultivation of this product, and also of potatoes, the staple crops of these Islands, is apparently seriously threatened in consequence. Should the cultivation of these products fail for the causes referred to, the agricultural prospects of the Colony will depend on a further development of truck gardening, and on the cultivation of fruit, if the experiments now being conducted for the extermination of the fruit-fly pest prove successful, in which case, resort may be had to extensive fruit cultivation.

The question of improving and extending hotel accommodation in order to meet the growing demands of the winter tourist business received considerable attention during the year. During the early part of 1907, a commodious and well equipped hotel was opened in the town of St. George, which was built and furnished almost entirely by local St. George private capital. This hotel has, so far, not solved the difficulty

of lack of proper accommodation for tourists, owing to the fact that American visitors apparently prefer to congregate in or near Hamilton where the other large hotels are situated.

At the present date, there are proposals under consideration for establishing a large first-class hotel in the vicinity of Hamilton; and for providing for more frequent steam communication with the United States during the winter months.

Although objections may be raised to any tendency to flood these Islands with large numbers of tourists, one cannot but realize that a material increase in this trade on proper lines, *i.e.*, by preventing the place from becoming a cheap second-class resort, should benefit the community generally,—and especially agriculturists whose prospects at the present date, as referred to above, are not bright. A large increase in the tourist trade should provide a lucrative home market for truck gardening, fruit cultivation, poultry raising, and dairy supplies of all kinds.

I do not wish to be considered as claiming that the minor industries referred to, could, from a monetary point of view, take the place of the cultivation of the present staple crops of the Colony; but if, owing to competition with the products of Texas and Florida, the cultivation of these crops should cease to be remunerative, and on the other hand the tourist business is largely increased, there should be a considerable demand for green vegetables, poultry, dairy produce, and fruit at remunerative prices.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON.

Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency

Lieutenant-General J. H. Wodehouse, C.B., C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony &c.	Year.
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia... ..	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do. ...	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c. ...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria ...	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa ...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 537.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA
PROTECTORATE,

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 499.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
and 32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.;
or OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH;
or E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1907.

[Cd. 3729-1.] Price 3½d.

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No. 537.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA
PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1905-6 *see* No. 499.)

THE COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government Offices,

Zomba,

British Central Africa,

20th June, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit my report on the British Central Africa (Nyasaland) Protectorate for the year 1906-7.

I have, &c.,

F. B. PEARCE,

Acting Commissioner.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCE.

REVENUE.

1. The Revenue of the Protectorate for the year 1906-7 was £82,107, being £8,332 above the estimate and £5,369 more than during the preceding financial year.

The chief increases were "Hut Tax" £4,545 and "Customs" £2,212.

The increase in the amount of Hut Tax collected is considerable as may be gathered from the following table:—

Hut Tax.

Year.	Number of taxes collected.	Amount.
		£
1895-6	(no record).	4,704
1896-7	"	7,201
1897-8	"	8,083
1898-9	"	12,646
1899-1900	"	13,466
1900-1	"	16,756
1901-2	"	21,235
1902-3	161,385	26,145
1903-4	167,224	26,276
1904-5	184,076	29,024
1905-6	197,363	31,074
1906-7	226,550	35,619

EXPENDITURE.

2. The total expenditure for the year 1906-7 was £111,564, being £5,660 less than estimated and £2,872 more than in 1905-6. Of this total civil expenditure (including police) accounted for £75,922, the balance—£35,642—being military expenditure.

The following is a statement of revenue and expenditure for the past five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1902-3	67,477	107,257
1903-4	75,895	102,527
1904-5	67,553	122,771
1905-6	76,738	108,682
1906-7	82,078	111,535

II.—TRADE.

GENERAL.

3. The general external trade of the Protectorate, not including goods in transit to and from surrounding territories, amounted, in value, to £293,182, which exceeds the previous year's total by £13,823.

Customs revenue amounted to £26,916 3s. 3d., which exceeds the revenue of the previous year by £1,972 15s. 0d., and of the year 1904-5 by £6,998. A sum of £418 12s. 9d. which is not classed as customs revenue was also collected by the department, so that the gross receipt amounted to £27,334 16s. 0d. The estimated revenue was £22,360.

IMPORTS.

4. The revenue-yielding imports show an increase of £14,773 and the total imports for home consumption a net increase of £20,354. The principal increase is in soft goods, *i.e.*, calico, printed cottons, etc., for native trade, which is £32,250. There is a decrease in the import of provisions, hardware and "free goods," the latter principally consisting of railway material. (*See also* Annex I., tables I. & II.)

EXPORTS.

5. Under this heading there is a decrease of 511,981 lbs. in weight and £6,531 in value, chiefly in coffee and cotton. There is an increase of 214,321 lbs. in the quantity of tobacco exported. The partial failure of the cotton crop in the Shire Valley accounts in a great measure for the decrease in that product, the quantity exported from one plantation falling from 109 tons in 1905-6 to 60 bales of 400 lbs. each in 1906-7. The low prices now ruling in the European markets have caused the cultivation of coffee to be neglected, and the output has been declining for some years. The supply of wild rubber has also been falling off, and cultivated rubber has not yet been put upon the market, except in small quantities. The quantity of cultivated rubber exported during the year was 972 lbs. Ground-nuts and oil seeds are not specially cultivated for export, and the trade in these articles is in the hands of Indians, as is also the trade in beeswax. (*See* Tables I. & III. of Annex I.)

TRANSIT IMPORTS.

6. There is a decrease of £10,949 in the value of imported goods passing through the Protectorate in transit to surrounding territories. Since the opening up of alternative routes into German Nyasaland, the Congo Free State, and North Eastern Rhodesia, the transit trade through the Protectorate had been variable. The diversion of this trade into other channels has

been accelerated by the difficulty experienced in navigating the Shire river during the greater part of each year, since 1903, and consequent delays. The bulk of the trade now consists of goods sent by firms, who have their headquarters in the Protectorate, to trading branches in the surrounding countries, chiefly Rhodesia.

TRANSIT EXPORTS.

7. This trade is chiefly in rubber and ivory, of which the supply is rapidly becoming exhausted and is very irregular. In the total trade there is an increase of £13,707. Gold dust value £17,310 and weighing 4,317 ounces, from the Congo Free State, is included in the total.

Statistics with regard to the transit trade will be found in Tables IV. and VI. of Annex I.

TRADE PROSPECTS.

8. Large stocks of Manchester soft goods are at present in the country, and it is possible that the import of these goods may show a decrease. The native trade has declined to some extent owing to a large number of natives employed on railway construction last year being now without work or employed on plantations or other less remunerative labour. The prospects as regards exports are more hopeful; the cotton, coffee, and tobacco crops show signs of improvement, while some attention is given to fibres. An extensive trade can be done in ground-nuts, beans, and maize, when cheaper communication with the coast is provided.

9. The vague and geographically incorrect name of this country still tends to cause mistakes; and as pointed out in a petition from the local Chamber of Commerce during the past year, it also tends to adversely affect business transactions, owing to the confusion which evidently exists regarding the exact identity of this country.

Three instances of the manner in which business and other communications are directed to this country may not be without significance:—

The first emanated from South Africa; the other two were forwarded by firms in Fleet Street, who might reasonably be supposed to have been in possession of up-to-date works of reference.

1. "The Commissioner, Fort Johnstone, Victoria Nyanza, British East Africa."

2. "The British Governor, Zomba, Natal, South Africa."

3. "The Governor of Blantyre, Zomba, North Eastern Rhodesia."

All these were received within the last month. Of course it is impossible to say how many letters go astray from being incorrectly addressed.

III.—SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

10. There are 141 vessels on the Chiromo Register of Shipping, viz.: 18 stern-wheeler steamers, 1 paddle steamer, and 1 stern-wheel oil motor boat, 98 barges and 23 locally-built wooden boats. There is also a large fleet of dug-out canoes trading on the Shire river, mostly owned by Indians. Two steamers under the Portuguese flag and one under the German flag ply between Chinde and the Protectorate, making a total of 23 steamers engaged in that trade.

These vessels carried inwards during the year a total of 6,615 tons of cargo, and 294 European passengers, and outwards 986 tons of cargo and 199 European passengers. One company owning five steamers, discontinued the general trade as common carriers at the end of the financial year.

11. The Government steamer "Guendolen" plying on Lake Nyasa has carried out all the requisite traffic as regards cargo, baggage, and passengers during the year, making the usual monthly trip round the lake calling at all ports, and six extra trips to Kota Kota, Fort Maguire, and Saidi Mzungu, during the rice season.

The ship has been running well and appears to be in a satisfactory condition throughout.

The weather on Lake Nyasa during the year has been much the same as usual: strong southerly winds from April to September, easterly winds from October to December and variable from January to March.

The harbour at Kota Kota appears to be gradually silting up; the sand-pit forming the south and east protection is increasing to the northward somewhat.

Owing to the fall in the lake and the general alteration of the coast line in places, both Karonga and Nkata Bay are not very safe anchorages during certain winds.

12. For the fourth year in succession the Shire river has been unnavigable throughout the whole of the dry season, and from April till November steamers were unable to reach the Protectorate. During this period goods were conveyed from the head of navigation to rail-head at Port Herald in barges propelled by manual labour, and passengers travelled in house-boats. From November till January the river rose and fell spasmodically and was occasionally navigable to Chiromo, but from the beginning of the latter month till the end of the year it remained at a fairly high level and navigable for all craft from Chinde to Katunga. The number of vessels that cleared

up river from Chiromo was: steamers, 19; boats, barges, and canoes, 450; total 469. These vessels carried 1,216 tons of cargo and 53 European passengers. The balance of the imports was transported from Chiromo overland by native carriers. The Port Herald to Chiromo section of the Shire Highlands Railway carried up, during the year, 3,295 tons of general merchandise, including locally-grown food stuffs and other produce, and 2,619 tons of railway construction material; and down, 1,060 tons of general merchandise, also including local produce not intended for export.

During the dry season, the river became choked with grass and floating sudd, and before navigation was resumed a channel had to be cut through that obstruction.

The difficulty and uncertainty with which produce is exported during the greater portion of the year from the Protectorate seriously handicaps all enterprise and prohibits the exploitation amongst the planting community of products which might with lower freights prove commercially profitable: for instance the cost of transport of coffee from an estate to Blantyre and from Blantyre to London, including all incidental expenses such as cost of bags, packing, insurance, wharfage, commissions, home charges, hulling and so on is about £15 per ton. Tobacco costs about the same or probably more, cotton (including ginning and baling) about £18 per ton, and the easiest obtainable product would cost from £9 to £12 per ton. Taking an average of £1 per ton from plantation to Blantyre, £1 to railhead, £2 10s. 0d. to Chinde and £2 10s. 0d. to London, we have a fixed charge of £7 per ton to which has to be added cost of packing and all other charges so that £9 per ton would be an absolute minimum and £12 would be a very low average. Therefore the cultivation of any product the selling value of which is below £12 is practically impossible.

Now the ratio between the transport and marketing charges of any product can be easily seen. For example, ground-nuts sell at about £12, and therefore cannot be exported except from the lower river districts; fibres running from £16 to £20 could not pay as the transport and selling expenses would leave no margin for cultivation. Low priced tobacco would not pay as the cost of packing runs dearer and therefore the expenses for freight, &c., would cost more than 50 per cent. of the value of the product: For example, a tobacco selling at 4d. in London, stripped or without the midrib, would pay twopence in freight and charges, leaving 2d. per lb. for the grower, and as the stripped leaf is not much more than half the weight of the whole leaf it means the grower would get about 1½d. per lb. Cotton at low prices would not pay for cultivation; and coffee at present prices can hardly be called a paying product. What is required more especially in a new country is a low freight to enable development work to be continued without undue loss. While coffee would be carried from Bombay to London at from

20s. to 30s. per ton, Nyasaland planters have to pay from 40s. to 50s. It may be said in general that any product whose selling value is 30s. per cwt. has to pay about half its value in transport and other charges, leaving only half the value for the producer to pay costs of cultivation, salaries, interest on capital, machinery, &c., so that it is abundantly evident what a serious bearing the present high freight rates have on the prosperity of the country and how urgently the want of railway communication to the coast is felt by the community.

13. Nine privately-owned bonded stores have been established, viz.: three in Chiromo, five in Blantyre and one in Fort Johnston. Bonds, amounting in the aggregate to £5,200 have been deposited with the Customs, as security for the duties, and other charges, due on goods deposited in such stores, and also as security for the duties due on goods passing through the Protectorate in transit, which formerly had to be deposited, and were retained by the Customs until the goods had left the country. Three transit sheds have been built by Government at Port Herald and are rented by the shipping companies, and an iron landing shed, the use of which is free, has been constructed on the wharf at Chiromo. A King's warehouse has also been built at Port Herald.

IV.—AGRICULTURE.

*Cotton.**

14. The following are the particulars of the European cotton industry since its inception:—

Year.	Total acreage under European cultivation.	Crop exported to 31st March.	Local valuation.
		lbs.	£
1901-2	60	Experimental parcels.	—
1902-3	580	692	3
1903-4	7,000	56,577	1,777
1904-5	21,900	285,185	5,914
1905-6	10,012	776,621	16,180
1906-7	7,017	526,119	15,345

It should be noted that the export of any one year is from the preceding year's acreage.

Cotton heads the list of exports from this country for the second year in succession, in spite of the extremely dry season and of the fact that the acreage under cultivation was much less than the previous year.

* See also special report on Cotton Industry.—Annex III.

The total is far below expectations, being 250,000 lbs. less than last year's output.

The river crops were very small, otherwise there would have been an increased production. The shortage of rain acted more disastrously in those districts than in the Highlands.

Prices compensated to some extent for the poor result, 11*d.* and 1*s.* per lb. having been obtained for choice lots, whilst American Upland from the Highlands has fetched as much as 8½*d.* per lb.

The area under cotton this season is some 3,000 acres less than last year, and less than one third the acreage under cotton two years ago. At that time the cotton boom was on, and large acreages were put in without much regard to the variety sown, soil, or the prevailing climatic conditions. The results obtained under these circumstances were so disappointing that many planters felt compelled to discontinue its cultivation, and devote their attention to other crops. A few planters have met with well merited success, and this has given the rest of them courage. Next season it may be anticipated that more cotton will be planted as many are awaiting a favourable opportunity for making a fresh start with this product.

It is now realised that a good crop of cotton even once in two years pays well, and that prosperity can only be attained by the cultivation of different products.

A good crop of cotton cannot reasonably be expected from land newly opened up. The soil never gets properly aerated, and the accumulation of organic matter is not sufficiently oxidised for the ground to be in a fit state for plant growth. Thus after the first few seasons the plantations will gradually improve.

Numerous insect pests have a natural feeding place before the land is opened up. Afterwards when thousands of plants of the same species are grown together, the balance of nature is upset, and if by any chance the introduced plant can act as host to the pests, the latter thrive under the favourable circumstances thus artificially produced.

The same remarks apply to fungoid pests, and their occurrence in this country is not in any way exceptional.

The varieties of cotton are getting acclimatised year by year, so that the industry tends to become more firmly established.

The manager of the Bruce Trust, Limited, one of the most successful cotton producers in the country states:

It is found that districts with a rainfall of about 35 inches favourably distributed over say five months give the best results.

Seed acclimatised to the country of the American Upland variety has proved itself thoroughly adapted for successful cultivation in the Shire Highlands and if grown on proper lines will give a good margin of profit to the planter at the present condition of the home market.

15. It is satisfactory to report that the amount of cotton produced by native cultivation during the year under report

shows an increase over the previous year. $77\frac{1}{2}$ tons of unginned cotton have been purchased from native cultivators as against $67\frac{1}{4}$ tons for the previous year. The price paid to natives ranged from $\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $1d.$ per lb. Apart from the disinclination of the African native to take up any innovation, there will always be a difficulty in this Protectorate of making cotton-growing general, owing to the indifferent means of transport and communication, which exists in the outlying districts. This is bound to be the case in a country where all transport is by carrier only, and the native of the remoter districts can scarcely be blamed for hesitating to participate in the production of crops of economic value such as cotton, when to dispose of the results of his labour it is necessary for him to make a journey of 6 or 7 days.

Cotton seed was freely distributed to all natives, and at the beginning of the rainy season in November, 1906, it was anticipated that good crops would be obtained. During the current year, in the middle of January, however, a serious drought occurred which not only did considerable damage to the cotton crops, but for a time threatened the destruction of the whole of the grain crops in the Protectorate. The effect on the cotton crop has been adverse, and nothing discourages the native more than an incident such as that referred to. The prospects therefore of the cotton crop for this season cannot be regarded as promising, and it is unlikely that as large an amount of cotton will be forthcoming during the year 1907-8 as that grown during the year under report. With regard to native cotton cultivation generally, Mr. Simpson, the Cotton Expert, has supplied the following details:—

The native cotton crop this year is in excess of last year by 10 tons, whilst the total amount paid by purchasers is £622 3s. 2d. against £600 12s. 10d. for the previous year, a bigger percentage of the crop being sold at $\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb.

The Lower Shire, Ruo, West Shire, Zomba, and Upper Shire Districts have been producing less, whilst Blantyre, Mlanje, South Nyasa, Central Angoniland, and North Nyasa have an increased production.

The Mlanje and North Nyasa Districts have done particularly well.

The buyers state that this year the cotton was delivered in a much cleaner condition than formerly, and with the prevailing high prices of cotton, a good profit would be the result.

Last year's estimate for native-grown cotton was 100 tons. Considering the remarkably dry season which so adversely affected the river districts, the output of $77\frac{1}{2}$ tons is most satisfactory.

The seed distributed to the growers this year was bought locally. This of course means a great saving in expense and also ensures that the seed is to some extent acclimatised.

The experimental plots at Chikwawa, Neno, Liwonde, and Ncheu will have had a good educative effect, and this year they ought to be continued in other districts.

As the Residents take charge of them the cost is small.

Coffee.

16. The crops for the year were generally below the average throughout the Protectorate, owing largely to the early cessation of the rains.

From the following statistics the position of this industry in Nyasaland may be gauged:—

Year.	Total Acreage under Cultivation.	Crop exported at 31st March of each year.	Valuation for Export purposes	Valued at.
		lb.	Per lb.	£
1894 ...	No statistics.	93,118	No statistics.	No statistics.
1895 ...	"	165,320	5d. and 6d.	4,133
1896 ...	"	322,000	5d. " 6d.	7,136
1897 ...	"	762,382	5d. " 6d.	16,426
1898 ...	13,299	861,034	5d. " 7d.	22,412
1899 ...	11,816	809,758	5d. " 7d.	23,756
1900 ...	12,191	2,148,160	5d. " 7d.	62,245
1901 ...	16,917	1,248,402	5d. " 6d.	26,576
1902 ...	10,713	699,030	5d. " 6d.	14,751
1903 ...	11,287	1,007,092	6d.	25,177
1904 ...	8,867	714,743	5d.	17,869
1905 ...	4,880	1,303,655	5d.	27,159
1906 ...	5,273	773,919	5d.	16,123
1907 ...	5,565	454,111	5d.	9,461

It should be noted that the export of any one year is from the preceding year's acreage under cultivation.

Tobacco.

17. The cultivation of tobacco is becoming more and more popular; the acreage is considerably increased, and a much improved type of leaf, of more uniform quality, is being turned out.

The following table shows the acreage and export since 1899. (It should be remembered that the export in any year is from the preceding year's acreage under cultivation):—

Year.	Total Acreage under Cultivation.	Crop exported to 31st March of each year.	Valuation for Export purposes.	Valued at.
		lb.	per lb.	£
1899	No statistics.	2,240	5d.	47
1900	69	4,480	{ 9d.* } { 4d.† }	113
1901	24	1,482	—	25
1902	88	14,369	7d.	418
1903	441	17,604	4d.	293
1904	944	28,914	4d.	481
1905	421	56,826	4d.	947
1906	955	198,994	4d.	3,317
1907	2,330	413,316	4d.	6,889

* Manufactured.

† Raw.

The following information on tobacco has been afforded by the Blantyre & East Africa, Limited, one of the principal planting firms in the country:—

This product was generally gone in for by the planters but, owing to the season, has not been quite so successful as in the previous year. The drought in January came at a very critical time, most of the plants having then only been recently set out or being ready to put out from the nurseries. Many of those in the field died, and the continued dry weather prevented those in the nurseries being put out, or, if planted out, they were in most instances scorched up. Meantime those in the nurseries grew to large to make good transplants. The result was that large numbers of plants were lost and the full acreage could not be planted up. Following the dry weather the continued rain was prejudicial. Some of the tobacco which was planted early could only be harvested at a disadvantage owing to the wet weather, while the younger tobacco was affected by a (probably fungoid) disease. This showed up in the cured product as black spots and depreciated the value of the tobacco. Then again those planters who had trusted to having dry weather in March and April for sun-curing and had not made ample provision for housing the whole crop by erecting barns had a portion of their crop spoiled owing to the rain. The proportion of first-class tobacco was therefore small and the proportion of good bright yellow leaf was also much less than expected. In spite of all the drawbacks however the total crop will exceed that of the previous year. The unfavourable conditions were much to be regretted as efforts were being made to grow a leaf suitable for the home market, and naturally it was desired to make as favourable an impression as possible. There is however no doubt now that excellent tobacco, suitable for the British market, can be grown in this Protectorate.

Efforts during the last few seasons have been chiefly directed to the production of Brights (Yellow Leaf) and there is no doubt that Brights will pay the planter best as the prices range from 6d. to 1s. per lb. on the Liverpool market. All estates, however, have not the class of soil most suitable for Brights and on these a fine sun cured tobacco has been produced. Although the price for dark leaf is lower than for Brights, the heavier yield to some extent makes up for the lower prices. It is interesting to note that Turkish Leaf has been tried for the first time during the past season, and that the results obtained promise success for this class of leaf. Cigar tobacco production has also received attention, and while it is too soon to pronounce a final verdict the results so far are all favourable. It is hoped to be able to complete the curing of the leaf and subject it to the final test this year, viz., the test of the open Continental market.

Tea.

18. Although tea thrives exceedingly well in the Mlanje district, no attempts have been made to cultivate it in other districts; yet many have soils and a climate well suited for this product. The acreage at Mlanje is increased. The preparation of the crop is not expensive; the chief reason why it is neglected appears to be the necessity of expending capital, upon which no return is obtained for five or six years.

The following information on this product has been supplied by tea-planting firms in the country:—

(a) By Mr. Brown, of Thornwood Estate, Mlanje:—

This is a promising industry and should prove as remunerative in most parts of British Central Africa as it does in Natal, as most parts of this Protectorate has as good a rainfall and much cheaper labour. Tea

has no enemies here, and once the plants are fixed in the soil they hold their own even in abandoned land. The yield I have secured from tea in bearing is over 400 lbs. per acre after three years, but it is not in full bearing till six or seven years old, so that one has to be prepared to lie out of money for some years before a return is got. Catch crops can be grown however.

(b) By the Manager of "Blantyre & East Africa, Ltd.":—

Extensions continue to be made in this product but only by a few firms which are now beginning to reap the results of their past efforts. The production of tea last season was about two tons and this season it will be fully three tons. This is practically all consumed in the country and it is largely displacing imported teas. Next year larger areas will come into bearing, and the surplus which is not used in the Protectorate will be exported. The quality of the tea is certainly good, and there is no doubt that there is a good field for the extension of this product in the Mlanje District, where the soil and climate are suitable.

Fibres.

19. Planters are beginning to recognise that the cultivation of fibres, other than cotton, is a sound investment, and many are planting up both Sisal and Mauritius hems as rapidly as possible, but the cultivation of this and similar products must be to a great extent dependent on whether cheaper means of transporting and shipping the produce will be available in the future. Although 27,250 young plants of these fibres were distributed by the Forestry and Botanical Department, thrice that number would have been eagerly taken up had there been further supplies for distribution. Ramie fibre is only grown experimentally on a few estates at present, and the prospects of this excellent fibre in this Protectorate are not good. In countries where the rainfall is better distributed throughout the year, four, or even five crops are obtained in one season; whereas it is doubtful whether more than one crop would be obtained in this country, unless irrigation can be maintained. Growers of this fibre would therefore meet those of other countries at a great disadvantage in the markets, whereas by cultivating Sisal and Mauritius hems, they will meet other producers on practically equal terms.

Rubber.

20. The possibilities of Ceara rubber are generally recognised, and many estates are planting up on a larger scale, as several samples sent home for examination and valuation have been favourably reported upon. Para rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*), and Central American (*Castilloa elastica*) were imported from Ceylon, and planted on an estate in the lake district just over a year ago. The condition of the young plants after a few months planting was so encouraging, that a further and much larger consignment of both species has since been obtained by the firm from the same source. Enquiries are frequently made concerning the cultivation of the native *Landolphia* rubbers, but no encouragement is given to intending planters, as the plants take a very long time to reach

maturity, need the presence of other trees or else poles for support, and after one tapping need a rest for many years ere they can be again profitably tapped. Seeds of the Lagos rubber (*Funtumia elastica*), which has recently been discovered in quantity in Uganda, have been received; and are now germinating freely. The plants will eventually be tried in various parts of the Protectorate, and should succeed in several districts, the less arid of which apparently closely resemble the Uganda forests in their climatic conditions.

The African Lakes Corporation, the largest growers of rubber in Nyasaland, have during the past year largely extended their operations in the West Nyasa District, and now have under cultivation at their Chombe Estates four varieties of tree rubber, viz.:—

Para (*Hevea brasiliensis*).

Castilloa elastica.

Ceara (*Manihot glaziovii*).

Funtumia elastica.

in addition to a large acreage of Landolphia vines.

Arrangements are being made with a view to introducing still other varieties to their plantations. The Corporation also have a small area of Ceara trees about 6 to 8 years old at Mlanje, and elaborate experiments are in progress there in order to ascertain the most remunerative system of tapping this species of tree. 972 lbs. of cultivated rubber were exported this year, as against 523 lbs. during 1905-6.

The total export of uncultivated rubber was 16,403 lbs., valued at £3,486, being a decrease of 880 lbs. on the amount exported last year.

The following table shows the quantity of rubber exported since 1898:—

Year.			Crop exported to 31st March of each year.	Valuation for Export purposes.	Valued at.
			lb.	Per lb.	£
1898	...	...	21,416	1s. 0d.	1,059
1899	...	...	91,264	2s. 3d.	10,267
1900	...	...	118,720	2s. 3d.	13,356
1901	...	...	85,904	2s. 3d.	9,669
1902	...	...	14,393	2s. 3d.	1,619
1903	...	...	11,723	2s. 0d.	1,172
1904	...	...	4,262	2s. 0d.	426
1905	...	...	17,664	2s. 6d.	2,208
1906	...	...	17,283	2s. 6d.	2,160
1907	...	...	16,403	4s. 3d.	3,486

Cocoa.

21. It seems to be conclusively proved that the climate of Nyasaland is unsuitable for the cultivation of cocoa. The only plant in the Botanic Gardens died recently, and the experimental plants established in the Mlanje district, where they were expected to flourish, if anywhere, are looking very sickly. In spite of the heavy rainfall in that district the dry season is too prolonged for the plant to thrive.

Chillies.

22. The cultivation of chillies still shows a retrograde tendency, only 3,336 lbs. (valued at £106), having been exported during the year, being a decrease of 13,955 lbs. on last year's figures, and 73,087 lbs. on those for the year 1904-5.

Ground-nuts.

23. A decrease of 101,029 lbs. is shown in the quantity of ground-nuts exported during 1906-7 on that of 1905-6. The following table shows the position of this industry for the past three years.

Year.	Quantity exported.	Value for Export purposes.	Valued at.
	lbs.	Per lb.	£
1904-5 	348,895	1d.	1,454
1905-6 	588,692	1d.	2,453
1906-7 	487,663	1d. and 1½d.	2,930

24. The following notes relate to the work undertaken by the Forestry and Botanic Department:—

GOVERNMENT BOTANICAL GARDENS.

Much labour has been expended on the Botanic Gardens. New roads and paths have been made; large plots cleared, levelled and planted with grass, which in addition to improving the appearance of the gardens, will keep weeds in check, and show off the various specimen trees, etc., to the best advantage. A commencement has been made with the labelling of specimens with their botanical name, economic uses, and native country. Much yet remains to be done to get the gardens in thorough order, and once more stocked with all economic and other plants suited to the country; the labour expended during the year being more in the nature of laying a sound foundation for future developments.

There being no suitable plots in the Botanic Gardens for carrying on comparative experimental cultivation on a large scale, a piece of land has been selected for that purpose about two miles from the Botanic Gardens. The area at present taken up is twelve acres, and this can easily be increased when necessary; the soil is good, of fairly uniform character; the situation open; and the land capable of being easily irrigated. The general nursery is being established there and experimental plots at present planted are coffee, Ceara rubber, Cassava, sweet potatoes, Sisal hemp, Ramie fibre, and the native Buaze fibre; also a large plot of pineapples. Various fruit trees, as mangos, Avocado pears, and lemons are planted in lines to divide the ground into convenient plots and to serve as wind-breaks for the same.

Fruit Crops.

The fruit crops during the year were on the whole good. The Sweet Sop (*Anona squamosa*), Carambole, (*Averrhoa carambola*), Avocado pear (*Persea gratissima*), bananas, and peaches fruited freely. Pineapples were not plentiful owing to the plants not having been renewed for many years. Strawberries, guavas, pomegranates, and hog plums (*Carissa grandiflora*) bore freely, but the crop of litchies (*Nephelium litchi*), and mangos in the gardens was a complete failure, owing to locusts having devoured the young flower spikes. Many of the mango trees in private gardens, however, escaped the ravages of the locusts, and carried heavy crops.

Seeds Received.

During the year seeds were received from the following:—

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	...	...	64 packets.
" " " Calcutta	...	24	"
" " " Ceylon	...	17	"
" " " Trinidad	...	7	"
Botanic Gardens, Entebbe	...	2	"
Conservator of Forests N.W. Rhodesia	...	1	"

Seeds and Plants Distributed.

Eighty packets of seeds of various economic and ornamental plants were distributed gratuitously to residents; also 5,250 young plants of Sisal hemp (*Agave rigida sisalana*), 22,000 Mauritius hemp (*Boehmeria nivea*), and 26,000 seeds of Ceara rubber were distributed to various planters. Seedlings and cuttings of various useful and ornamental plants were propagated in the gardens, and of these 3,560 were distributed to residents.

V.—AFFORESTATION.

Zomba.

25. The afforestation of the Zomba plateau by the Forestry and Botanic Department was commenced during the year, an area of 25 acres being cleared and planted with the Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*). About 75,000 plants were utilised, being planted at the rate of about 3,000 per acre. Another 20,000 seedlings, raised at the same time as those planted had to be retained in nursery beds, owing to labour being so scarce during the months favourable for planting.

Exceptionally dry weather was experienced during December and early January, and it was not practicable to begin planting until the middle of the latter month. The copious rains since planting have enabled the plants to get well established with a minimum percentage of failures. There are now about 48,000 young plants in nursery beds on the plateau available for planting, and another 120,000 is being raised, in order that at least 60 acres may be planted during 1907-8.

An area of six acres near Government House was planted with *Eucalyptus paniculata*, one of the best timber species of the genus. The young plants were put out during the earliest rains, and are now well established.

On the slopes of Zomba Mountain, 3,000 eucalyptus were planted in those spots where the Mlanje cedar had failed to become established. Whilst a few of the latter are doing well on this plantation, it is evident that further planting on the mountain slopes must be confined to eucalyptus, many of those planted being already over 8 ft. high, the situation being far too exposed and arid for Mlanje cedar.

Blantyre.

26. Afforestation at Blantyre which had previously been undertaken by the District Resident was taken over by the Forestry and Botanic Department during the year. Thirty acres were cleared for planting with the better species of eucalyptus during the year, and about 5,000 African mahogany seedlings (*Khaya senegalensis*) have been planted.

A native superintendent, thoroughly conversant with the raising and planting of trees, etc., has been engaged to carry on the work at Blantyre, and a nursery to raise all plants required in future in the district is being established.

Mlanje.

27. No afforestation has been done at this station during the year, it having been decided that such work can be carried on more advantageously in equally suitable and less unapproach-

able places. Timber cutting was carried on in the dry months—April to September, during which period 77,452 lineal feet of timber were cut.

Forty gallons of tar was distilled from waste timber chiefly for use by the Public Works Department.

General.

28. Extensive plantations of the Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia-whyteii*) are now in course of growth in various parts of the Protectorate so that future generations will have the benefit of utilizing this valuable timber. The seed of the *Widdringtonia-whyteii* has been largely distributed amongst the British Colonies throughout the world, and if not planted at too low a level appears to thrive exceedingly well.

The chief value of this timber is that it is impervious to the attacks of white ants. Experiments have likewise been made to obtain the essential oils from the wood by distillation. This product commonly known as Mlanje tar (although, strictly speaking, the term is inaccurate), has been found useful in coating wood and window and door frames so as to render any wood impervious to the attacks of white ants and wood borers. Mixed with oil or water it has been found to be an effective dressing for cattle, for the purpose of removing and killing ticks, which are liable to infest stock in this country.

VI.—NATIVE AFFAIRS.

29. It is satisfactory to be able to report that the general condition of native affairs within the Protectorate is entirely satisfactory. The native population are happy and contented, and there has been no untoward incident of a serious import throughout the year. This is largely due to the intimate relationship which exists between the District Officers and their people, and also to the journeys undertaken during the year by the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner, and the Assistant Deputy Commissioner, who, during their prolonged tours through all parts of the country make a special point of encouraging not only the important native chiefs, but local headmen and natives of all degree and importance, to visit them.

It has always been a feature in the native policy of this Protectorate to ensure to the native the ready accessibility of their local Magistrate, and in fact the District Officer may generally be assumed to stand with regard to his native charges *in loco parentis*. No native, however trivial his complaint, is sent away without receiving a patient and considerate hearing of his claims.

The accessibility to every native of the Commissioner himself is also a marked feature of Native Policy, and there is throughout the year a constant stream of chiefs and headmen who visit Zomba without trepidation for the purpose of paying their respects to the Commissioner.

Many of these natives have never visited the Government headquarters before, and their manifest enjoyment of their visit, and of the sights which must be to them novel and entertaining, no doubt tend to cement the cordial relations which happily exist between the ruler and the ruled in Nyasaland.

It may not be uninteresting to record how extremely well-behaved these native visitors from remote districts are, even in the midst of surroundings and under circumstances which must be extremely trying to them. Some of the more important chiefs who have visited Zomba recently have had the distinction of being invited to tea at Government House, and it is surprising to observe how good their behaviour is, and how well they overcome and master the intricacies inseparable from even a simple meal such as five o'clock tea.

Those natives who have visited Zomba during the past year have had the advantage of also being able to listen to the brass band of the King's African Rifles, an innovation which has materially enlivened the social life of Zomba. The brass band appeals to the native visitor (for the Nyasaland negro has undoubted musical proclivities), and they generally prefer the music to the mysteries of the electric light or telephone.

Amongst the chiefs who have been to pay their respects to the Commissioner has been Kalunda, one of the most influential chieftainesses in the country. It is a somewhat remarkable feature in a country where women are generally looked upon as mere property, that those women who have inherited the chieftainship should possess such wide influence, and should be capable of managing their affairs so effectively. Such is the case also with the other chieftainesses, who are at the head of their respective tribes in Nyasaland. These women are extremely loyal, and their people are always quiet, industrious, and well-behaved.

One interesting feature connected with the native administration for the past year has been the payment by the Angoni of the Mombera District of Hut Tax for the first time; and no less than £2,698 was collected from this source. Previous reports have recorded that the country now known as Mombera District was only taken over by the Administration in 1904. The people, it may be remembered, are of Zulu stock, and their ancestors were those Zulus who left Zululand and travelled northwards when Chaka was King, in the early years of the 19th century.

The large proportion of the inhabitants of this district work either in Southern Rhodesia or in the Transvaal mines, proceeding overland of their own accord, and being absent from

their homes for two, three, or even sometimes four years. They then return to enjoy their acquired wealth, which generally amounts to a very considerable sum. That there is a great deal of money amongst them is proved by the fact that gold coin was generally tendered to the District Resident in payment of their taxes during the past year.

A careful census of this District has been made with the result that the population may be taken to be 108,732. The population of this district was thought to be, before the Government took over the full administration of this country, nearly a quarter of a million, and the divergence between the estimate and the carefully prepared census of huts tends to indicate how difficult it is even for expert observers to estimate correctly the population of a country inhabited by the African native.

30. The natives' of the Shire Highlands appreciation of the local markets which have been recently instituted still continues; but the time it took to inaugurate these conveniences is an example of how very slow the African native is to assimilate new ideas.

There was a great difficulty in starting these markets for the native's benefit, and it took literally years to prevail upon him to bring his produce to one central spot in the various towns, instead of hawking it round to prospective purchasers.

The native markets at Blantyre and Zomba are now quite established, and thousands of natives may be seen, especially in the former place, bartering and doing business amongst themselves. It is likewise a great convenience to the European settlers.

All manner of business is transacted at these places, and one may see natives in possession of sewing machines appealing for custom to those natives who wish sewing of any sort to be done. One native has instituted a tea-stall, where he dispenses cups of tea at a penny each.

An innovation was instituted by the natives on the King's Birthday of last year, when many thousands assembled at Zomba to greet and pay their respects to His Majesty's Representative. The meeting took place outside the Victoria Memorial Hall at Zomba, and the proceedings were opened by two chiefs addressing the assembly, and explaining the object of their coming together, expressing at the same time the contentment of their people under British Rule, and their loyalty to His Majesty the King. The proceedings terminated with the singing by the natives of a version in the vernacular of "God Save the King," accompanied by a general clapping of hands, which amongst the aboriginal people in this part of the Empire, takes the place of cheering. Such a meeting may be considered a good sign, and there is no doubt that the native of Nyasaland has grasped in some measure the meaning and significance of the British Flag and Empire.

31. One feature of native life which has been somewhat prominent during the year under report, is the increase in the number of lunatics who have been brought under notice.

There are not sufficient grounds to assert that there has been any actual increase of insanity amongst the native population, for there are no means of ascertaining the numbers which have existed in previous years, and it is probable that the apparent increase is solely due to a more intimate knowledge of, and a closer association with, the native population.

The native method of dealing with the dangerous insane was to confine them in a forked slave-stick, and they were maintained and looked after by their relations in their respective villages; the probable explanation of the greater prominence which insane natives have received during the year is possibly due to the native communities no longer taking charge of those afflicted by insanity in their midst. The consequence has been that these persons have been more or less at liberty to roam about in freedom, and in one or two cases have been guilty of assaults, or wilful damage to European property. Provision is being made for the proper care of these unfortunate people.

It is not without interest to observe that there is a general belief amongst the natives that these cases of insanity have some connection with the phases of the moon, and it would be interesting to trace how this idea, which is so similar to the popular belief in Europe, arose.

32. The native labour supply, except in those months when the presence of the native is necessary in his own village for the preparation of his grain gardens, has been more than sufficient; and the railway construction work has had no cause during the year under report to complain of any shortage of labour. The numbers in constant employment at railway construction work have ranged from six to eight thousand. This sufficiency of labour has been largely due to the good treatment which the railway company has meted out to its native employees, and to the liking by the native labourer of this kind of work.

The completion of the railway works during the present year will no doubt release a large number of natives for other employment, and it remains to be seen whether they will be content with the ordinary plantation and the transport labour which will then be available for them.

An increasing number of natives seek work outside the Protectorate, both in Southern Rhodesia and the Transvaal, and latterly at the sugar plantation on the Zambesi River where they receive high wages, and are comparatively close to their own country.

With regard to the men who have been sent from Nyasaland to South Africa: out of the natives recruited in the Protec-

torate during 1904-5 for work at the mines in the Witwatersrand district of the Transvaal Colony, 253 returned home during the year ended 31st March, 1907, and were paid off their deferred pay (representing two-thirds of the total each native earned) in Zomba. All the 1904-5 recruits have now returned.

Of the 1,714 natives recruited for the mines during 1905-6, 1,200 have returned and been paid off during the year under review. There have been 101 deaths in the Transvaal during that period, and in addition 24 natives died on the way home.

In each of these cases the balance of pay due to the deceased has been distributed to the relatives of the district to which he belonged.

Late in 1906 permission was given for 500 natives to be recruited for surface work at the mines in the Transvaal and for 500 natives for work at the Premier Diamond Mine. The Witwatersrand Native Labour Association decided not to recruit the 500 men for surface work at the mines, but the 500 natives for the Premier Mine were recruited and despatched in December to the Transvaal.

The following information has been received from the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association with reference to the health of these 500 natives. Their Medical Officer, Dr. G. A. Turner, reports:—

Of the first gang of 189, who arrived on February 11th, I passed 171 as physically fit, and they were allotted to the Premier Diamond Mine on the 15th February. Of the gang of 296, who arrived on the 21st February, I passed 285, who were allotted on the 25th February. The first gang did not, as a whole, appear to equal in general condition the quality of the recruits received from Central Africa during 1906. Of the 29 boys detained, eight have since been passed as fit for work and allotted to the mine; we have, therefore now (8th March, 1907) 21 boys detained, most of whom are suffering from debility, possibly the result of the journey round the coast, the majority of whom will, I believe, be fit to work in a short time.

The amount of actual sickness among them has not been great. Of the first gang, two have been admitted to hospital, one with pneumonia and one with bronchitis. Of the second gang, four cases have gone to hospital, two of whom had bronchitis, one had dysentery and one pneumonia. None of these cases terminated fatally. It must be remembered that the medical examination of these boys is exceptionally severe, and that not only have the boys to be physically sound but they have also to be well filled out and fit for hard work before they are passed.

We have received favourable reports from the Medical Officer in charge of them at the Premier Mine, and we may therefore expect them to be a success from a health point of view.

Before these 500 natives left the Protectorate for the Transvaal they were twice medically examined, once at Fort Johnston and once at Chiromo. The sickness found amongst them on arrival at Johannesburg may be attributed therefore to the journey from this country to the Transvaal.

All the natives are working above ground, and there is every reason to hope that the mortality amongst these natives

will not approach anything like the mortality which has occurred in previous parties who went to work down below in the mines of the Witwatersrand District of the Transvaal.

Besides the natives recruited for the Transvaal under permission from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, a large and ever-increasing number of Nyasaland natives go down of their own accord to various parts of South Africa.

During the past year 2,083 passes have been issued to natives allowing them to leave the Protectorate in search of work. 1,592 of these passes have not been issued to individuals but to small parties of varying numbers. Taking the average number in each party to be four, it will be seen that $(6,368 + 491 =) 6,859$ natives received permission to leave for other parts of South Africa in search of work. In addition to these it may be safely estimated that an equal number leave this country without passes.

The majority of these people go to work in Southern Rhodesia, in the mines at Hartley, Salisbury, Bulawayo, whilst a considerable number go to farm work, domestic service, or as artisans.

Some of them, however, find their way to the Transvaal, and these natives must suffer considerable hardships on the journey down, and there is no doubt but that a number of them die *en route*, for they are not looked after, as are the natives recruited by the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association. It is apparent, therefore, that while the question of whether recruiting for the Transvaal shall be allowed or not is being seriously discussed and considered, the native in the meantime takes the matter into his own hands and departs.

During the past few months the Superintendent of Native Affairs has had many applications from natives who have already been to work in the mines, to be sent down again. These number some hundreds of applicants, all of whom have been informed that a decision will be come to after the end of June, 1907. It is probable that in July these natives will renew their applications to be sent, and if refused will find their own way to the South.

No doubt the majority of Nyasaland emigrants find work in Southern Rhodesia, where for years past natives from the Mombera and West Nyasa districts have been in the habit of going. A number of them appear to settle down permanently, especially the younger men from West Nyasa, of the Atonga tribe.

The attraction in Southern Rhodesia is no doubt the higher wages obtainable, farm labour being paid as much as 22*s.* 6*d.* a month, as against our 3*s.* or 4*s.*; domestic servants receive from 15*s.* to 60*s.* a month, whilst mining work is paid at from 20*s.* to 40*s.* a month.

Many Nyasaland natives remit home sums of money at regular intervals.

There are a considerable number of natives in the Protectorate to-day who are in possession of comparatively large sums of money (as much as £20 or £30 is common), which in most cases represent their earnings and savings in territories outside the boundaries of the Protectorate. The deferred pay received by natives on return from the Transvaal mines averages about £15 each man.

It is to be somewhat regretted that it is not possible to prevent, or at least supervise, the exodus of natives from the Protectorate who leave in search of work in other countries, not that it is desirable to prevent surplus labour seeking labour elsewhere than in this country, but it would be so far more beneficial to the natives themselves, and to the Protectorate generally if the exodus referred to could be regularised and the labourers sent down to their destinations under proper supervision. At present several thousands leave the Protectorate of their own accord every year; there is no means of ascertaining where they go to, or if they ever return; nor is it possible to learn what treatment or pay they receive by their unknown employers.

The regularised system by which recruitment has been in the past sanctioned for work in the Transvaal has certainly benefitted the native labourers, and the trading community in this country; for in the first place, only thoroughly healthy natives are permitted to proceed, a strict medical inspection taking place on their recruitment, the labourers' families and wives are provided for during their absence, proper provision for food and accommodation is ensured during their journey to the Transvaal, their pay is assured and no reductions or fines are permitted, so that each labourer receives the full amount due for his services, and in case of accident or death a liberal compensation is paid to their bereaved families.

The return journey is similarly supervised, and on arrival in this country the labourer receives the bulk of his pay (two-thirds), which has been transmitted by the employer to the Treasury during his service for payment to the man on his return home.

As this final payment amounts to a considerable sum the trading companies in the Protectorate obviously reap the benefit of this regularised system of recruiting of labour.

33. There is nothing of novelty to report with regard to religion and education, although they have had, and will in the future continue to have, such an important bearing in moulding the character of the natives of Nyasaland.

The majority of the people are heathen, whose chief beliefs are centred in the worship and veneration of spirits of their departed chiefs, and this primitive worship is coupled with

a credence in an all-powerful Spirit, and a confirmed belief in witchcraft.

A bastard form of Mahommedanism is likewise pervading the masses. This growth has been very remarkable within the last few years; and in most villages in the Shire Highlands will be found a small hut, which is used as a mosque, and the monotonous tones of the worshippers reading from the Koran is not an infrequent feature of village life in the southern portion of the Protectorate. At present the native has a most cloudy and indefinite idea of the religion which he thus attempts to follow, but there is no doubt that Mahommedanism has found a permanent home in this country, and will in the future compete with Christianity for supremacy amongst the aboriginal population.

If the Mahommedan religion has gained an entry into this country, it is also patent that the Christian religion has a very firm hold amongst a large portion of the people. The list of Missions in this country has been so often recorded that it is scarcely necessary to reiterate it; but there is no doubt that these Missions are extending their spheres of influence, and are shaping the characters of the natives in such a way as to benefit the natives themselves and the State.

It may be mentioned that the Likoma cathedral which has been in course of erection for some years on Likoma Island has been nearly completed by the Universities Mission to Central Africa; and throughout the Protectorate the number of schools under the supervision of the various societies has been generally increased.

During the year under report there has been no Educational Grant from Government, but it is probable that during the present year some financial assistance may be extended to the Missions of the Protectorate to further education amongst the indigenous tribes.

The number of the native schools within the Protectorate managed by the various Missions is returned as 708, and the total number of pupils under instruction is given at 58,018.

The craving for education amongst the natives is very remarkable, and it is no uncommon sight in the larger European settlements where mission schools exist to see adult native labourers of all kinds running with their slates and books under their arms to school after completing their day's work; and many natives under instruction will spend hours of their spare time in repeating their spelling lessons at the top of their voices.

This increase of education has led to a marked augmentation in the number of letters which natives write to each other, and the postal revenue has benefitted accordingly. As in most cases the addresses on the envelopes are written purely phone-

tically, it requires in many instances the combined experience of the postal authorities to decypher to which place, and for whom, the letters are intended.

Perhaps it may not be out of place to give an example of this phonetic spelling which is common amongst the natives of this Protectorate. Two recent letters intended for the Acting Commissioner have been addressed "*Kamusinara Piyasi*," which is of course not the vernacular, but the native way of phonetically spelling "*Commissioner Pearce*."

34. The judicial proceedings which have been necessary during the year have again gone to prove how law-abiding and well-behaved the native of Nyasaland is.

The main feature of the year with regard to judicial matters has been the entire prohibition of whipping, which in the past has been one of the most frequent punishments inflicted for petty offences. It is perhaps too early to report definitely what effect the abolition of this punishment will have on the criminal members of the population. Such an abolition is of course entirely to be wished for, but in dealing with a primitive people whose mental capacity and unit of thought is little better than a child's, it may be found necessary to resort in the future to some mild form of corporal punishment as being the best deterrent from wrong doing.

It is an unfortunate fact that to the African negro confinement in prison involves no real punishment or sense of shame, nor does it entail any kind of social ostracism; and except that the actual imprisonment entails a temporary absence from his village, it is to be feared that such a form of punishment neither acts as a deterrent, nor as a reforming agent. In fact while it cannot be supposed that a native actually likes being imprisoned, there is little doubt that the good accommodation, the ample food and warm blankets, tend to make a prisoner more than contented with his lot.

The abolition of whipping similarly has resulted in considerable extra expenditure, for whereas a prisoner for petty offences might receive a slight corporal punishment and be immediately released, his detention in prison naturally entails extra accommodation and an increased number of warders, and a larger expenditure on food and prison upkeep.

VII.—LIVE STOCK.

35. No epidemic affecting cattle and live-stock in the Protectorate occurred during the year under report, and their numbers have considerably increased.

The following table gives the quantity of European and native stock in the country:—

	Horses.	Donkeys.	Mules.]	Buffaloes.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Goats.	Pigs.
European ...	19	190	22	8	9,170	2,415	969	466
Native ...	—	—	—	—	39,707	12,282	77,542	1,711
Total ...	19	190	22	8	48,877	14,697	78,511	2,177

With regard to live-stock generally, the following notes, prepared by certain planters and others interested in the industry, may not be without value, as indicating the results which have accrued, from the introduction of European and other varieties for breeding purposes:—

Mr. Hermann Werth, of Blantyre, states:—

Cattle.—In December, 1903, I imported into the country two pedigree bulls from Lord Rosebery's herds—a shorthorn bull and a polled Angus bull, and also two Dutch cows and an Italian cow; I also imported at the same time a German mountain bull and cow.

Almost immediately after their arrival the German bull and one of the Dutch cows died. The German cow died some months afterwards as a result of an abortion.

The results obtained of the rest of the stock have been most satisfactory. Both the polled Angus bull, and the shorthorn bull when put to the imported cows have thrown excellent and healthy calves, and both bulls when run with native cows have given excellent stock. The death among calves has been practically nil, and the calves grow very much faster than native calves. I am so satisfied that on my trip home at the end of the year I mean to import two more bulls of the same breeds.

Sheep.—With the cattle I imported 12 sheep—Merino South Down and Border Leicester. The immediate results were unfortunate.

Chiefly owing to the heat (the animals having been imported at the wrong time of the year), and the bad transport on the river all the sheep died soon after arrival except one South Down ewe. She, however, had a pure bred ram lamb shortly afterwards. This ram has crossed freely with native sheep, and the half-breeds are all fertile.

The half-breeds are nearly as heavy as an average European sheep, and much larger than a native sheep. The coat shows a distinctly woolly tendency.

The three-quarter breeds are smaller than the half-breeds owing no doubt to inbreeding which has been unavoidable with me, but the coat is very much more woolly. I intend to bring out more rams.

Mr. Livingstone, of the Bruce Trust, Blantyre, says:—

So far the majority of my herds are native cattle, but a number of animals have been imported from time to time and have been crossed with the native cows with a view to grading up the breed as regards both milk-giving and beef-producing qualities. The results attained have been satisfactory, and a large number of the progeny of these crosses are to be found on a few estates to-day.

Bullocks with imported blood in them are much sought after for transport purposes, being larger and stronger than the native oxen, and they fetch remunerative prices.

Breeders are greatly handicapped for a market, Southern Rhodesia being too far to drive cattle over land to arrive in condition for a ready sale, besides the risk on the road of tset-e. The local market is very limited, meantime owners cannot realise their stock, but are waiting in the hopes of a market opening up at no distant date.

The amount of mortality has been normal, but in a tropical country there is always great risk of contagious disease arriving, and breeders would find themselves unfavourably situated in such a case owing to the absence of a veterinary surgeon. It is greatly hoped that the Government will appoint such an officer on the staff, stock raisers believing that the fees charged for services rendered would very largely prevent a veterinary department being a burden to the Government.

VIII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

36. The European population is returned at 583, as against 608 and 597 in the two last preceding years.

37. The Asiatic population also shows a falling off, the increase in previous years not being maintained, being returned at 518, or a decrease of 33 when compared with last year's return, viz.: 551. This decrease is most noticeable in the Zomba District, the number being 177 as against 225, the previous year's record. On the other hand both the Blantyre and the Ruw Districts show an increase in this class of the population.

38. The native population is estimated at 927,355, being 49,286 less than for the year 1905-6. This apparent decrease is probably due to a more accurate census being obtained, especially in the case of the Mombera District.

BIRTHS.

39. There were 19 European births registered during the year, giving a birth-rate of 32.59 per 1,000. The rate for the last three preceding years was as follows:—

Year.	Rate per 1,000.
1903-4	27.6
1904-5	31.08
1905-6	29.6

Of the 19 births registered, nine were returned in the Blantyre and four in the Zomba District, leaving the remaining six to be distributed between the Central Angoniland, the North and West Nyasa Districts.

DEATHS.

40. The deaths registered during the year totalled 35, or at the rate of 31·79 per 1,000. These 35 deaths were made up as follows:—

European males	...	...	...	...	23
„ females	...	...	...	...	1
„ infants	...	...	...	...	4
Asiatics	...	...	...	...	7
					—
					35
					—

The European death-rate amounted to 48·03 per 1,000, whilst the rate per 1,000 among the Asiatics is returned at 13·51.

The following comparative table gives the European death-rates per 1,000 for the three last preceding years:—

	Year.	Rate per 1,000.
1903-4	...	37·11
1904-5	...	23·06
1905-6	...	31·54

It will be observed that whilst the European population throughout the Protectorate has decreased from 608 to 583, the death-rate per 1,000 has advanced from 34·54 to 48·03.

It is worthy of note that 14 of the European male deaths occurred among those working on the Shire Highlands Railway, and that five out of the remaining nine occurred among those living in the Luchenza Valley in the vicinity of the railway, leaving four only to be accounted for elsewhere in the Protectorate: two of which were due to blackwater fever, one to meningitis, and the other to alcoholic coma.

Blackwater fever was returned as the cause of death in five cases as against seven, the previous year's record, whilst four deaths were returned as due to malaria and hyperpyrexia: all these latter took place in the last quarter of the year under report, in fact three out of the four within a few days of each other, and all at Chiromo in the Ruio District. Of the four deaths returned as due to pneumonia, three occurred among Asiatics.

MARRIAGES.

41. Ten marriages were celebrated during the year as compared with seventeen, the previous year's record: nine of these took place in the Shire Marriage District, the remaining

one being returned from the South Nyasa Marriage District. There were three marriages in which the contracting parties appeared to have been natives, as against seven in 1905-6.

IX.—LEGISLATION.

42. The following Ordinances have been enacted during the year (1st April, 1906, to 31st March, 1907):—

1. "The Subordinate Courts (Supplementary) Ordinance," No. 5 of 1906.
 2. "The British Central Africa Appropriation Ordinance, 1905," No. 6 of 1906.
 3. "The British Central Africa Labour Ordinance, 1906," No. 7 of 1906.
 4. "The Consolidating Customs Ordinance, 1906," No. 8 of 1906.
 5. "The Medical Practitioners Registration Ordinance, 1906," No. 9 of 1906.
 6. "The British Central Africa Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance, 1906," No. 10 of 1906.
 7. "The British Central Africa Appropriation Ordinance, 1907," No. 1 of 1907.
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X.—POSTAL.

43. It will be seen that the year under review has been an active one, an unmistakable endeavour having been made to increase the usefulness of the Department and to create a more popular service by reducing postage rates. The following came into force:—

- (1) Reduction of postage on parcels to Cape Colony from 1s. 4d. to 1s. per lb.
- (2) Reduction of postage on parcels, posted locally for delivery in the Protectorate, from 8d. per lb. to 4d. per lb. (on each of the first 2 lbs.) and 3d. per lb. (on each subsequent lb. not exceeding 11 lbs.).
- (3) Reduction in postage on correspondence to Southern Rhodesia, North Eastern Rhodesia, and Province of Mozambique.
- (4) Issue of orders for £1 and under, on India.
- (5) Additional and faster parcel post service from London, *via* Aden.

(6) Reduction of postage on letters to Egypt (including the Soudan) from 6*d.* to 1*d.* per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

(7) Reduction of postage for letters, on which 6*d.* per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. was previously charged by this Protectorate, to 3*d.* per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

(8) Direct money order exchange with North Eastern Rhodesia.

(9) Increase in the rates of commission on money orders issued on Australia and India.

(10) A weekly mail service to and from Tete.

POSTAL BUSINESS.

Articles Posted.

44. The estimated number of articles posted is 374,536, shewing increase of 53,632. Last year's figures, 320,904.

Letters returned to countries as "Undeliverable" were 904. Last year's figures, 686.

Letters posted locally and returned to residents in the Protectorate unclaimed amounted to 473. Last year's figures, 642.

The number of insufficiently prepaid letters posted, which were returned to the senders was 24. Last year's figures, 152.

Transport.

45. The continued dry weather throughout the year has thrown the river conveyance of the mails from Chinde almost entirely on to the local relays provided by the Postal Department from Villa Bocage to Port Herald.

From 1st April, 1907, all mails (except parcels) for Ngara, Kota Kota, Mzimba, and Chinteché will be sent overland *via* Zomba once a week.

River Service.

The British Central Africa Company's steamers have, at times, experienced difficulty in getting even up to Villa Bocage. The boats are, it seems, heavily laden with railway material.

Ocean Communication.

Number of oversea mails received was 407. Last year's figures, 348.

Mails despatched from the Protectorate were 318, shewing an increase of 75 additional mails dealt with during the present year. Last year's figures, 302.

MONEY ORDERS.

Foreign Service Transactions with Places Abroad.

46. Money orders sent from this country to places abroad, also payments made in the Protectorate, are as follows:—

Distribution of Business.	Issued.	Commission.	Paid.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Zomba	2,433 9 2	39 19 11	33 19 1
Blantyre	4,098 2 2	67 13 11	930 2 3
Chiromo	5,772 14 11	90 12 11	202 16 0
Fort Johnston	437 7 1	7 9 0	72 3 8

POSTAL ORDERS.

Inland.

47. The stock of old local issue postal orders was condemned and destroyed. There was practically no demand for them, for the simple reason that they were too expensive.

Imperial Exchanges.

British East Africa and Cape Colony decided to adopt the British scheme. Postal business continues to grow in the Protectorate.

One of the features deserving notice is the free use which the native makes of the postal order service.

PARCELS.

Inland Service.

48. The reduction of the rate for local parcels has been appreciated by the public in a marked manner, and it is anticipated that the service will expand even more than at present, as time goes on, and the Post Office takes its proper place as a carrying agent.

Taking returns from the principal offices only:—

	March, 1906, at 8d. per lb.	At present date the number each Month is—
Zomba	4	32
Blantyre	21	52
Chiromo	8	8

Foreign Service.

49. The number of parcels which entered the Protectorate was 3,023, against 2,618 last year.

Parcels despatched to outside countries were 553, as against 516 last year.

The facility of the faster route for parcels from London (*via* Aden) is evidently too new to be fully appreciated by the public yet, but the number of parcels sent by that route is being added to gradually. Enquiries have been instituted regarding the transmission of parcels in the opposite direction by the same route.

The gross value of goods which came into the Protectorate by Parcel Post was £3,647 3s. 9*d.* Last year's figures were £3,017 4s. 0*d.* Revenue transferred to the Customs Department was £302 0s. 6*d.*, last year £286 19s. 0*d.* Exports amounted to £500 7s. 10*d.*, last year £465 4s. 5*d.*

XI.—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL.

50. This department has been exceptionally busy during the year under report. This has specially been the case with the sub-department whose special duty is to maintain the existing roads, and general means of internal communication.

In a country such as Nyasaland, where tropical downpours during the rainy season are not infrequent, it is an exceptionally difficult matter to maintain the public highways so as to be passable for all kinds of traffic during the whole twelve months. It is satisfactory to be able to report that this however has been accomplished, and there has been no serious inconvenience caused to wheeled or other traffic by wash-outs or break-downs on the main roads. The roads of the Protectorate are not macadamised, and during the rainy season they naturally suffer from the wheeled traffic, which, at that season of the year, is especially heavy.

Year by year the Public Works Department are undertaking general improvements on the main roads, as may be exemplified by the fact that last year culverts and iron drain pipes were inserted to carry off the heavy rainfall, and to prevent wash-outs. Every year, moreover, the permanent bridges carrying the roadways across streams are being increased in number and in strength.

In this connection it may be mentioned that the Government Transport Department are obtaining a motor waggon for carrying Government stores to and from Zomba. The experiment will be watched with interest, for although this is not

the first motor vehicle which has been imported into the country, the type which is now being procured is better suited for the gradients which will be met with and the style of road which will have to be traversed. The saving in cost of transport will be very great, and should the experiment prove a success, it may be anticipated that the increase in motor vehicular traffic will be much augmented.

The substitution of motor traffic in place of the usual methods of transport will obviously have the effect of releasing a large number of native labourers for other industries.

It may also be mentioned here, that there are several motor bicycles in use in this Protectorate, so much so that an Association styled the "Motor Union of Nyasaland," for the encouragement of motoring, and for the general advancement of the movement in this country, has recently been inaugurated. The society assists members to import petrol, machines, and other essential accessories.

ROADS SUB-DEPARTMENT.

Zomba-Blantyre Road.

51. In addition to the general repairs on this road, which included metalling soft portions and other bad parts as far as possible, a deviation 400 yards in length was constructed at the Namadzi stream, by which the alignment of the road is greatly improved.

Namadzi Bridge.

At the Namadzi stream crossing of the Zomba-Blantyre road, a compound truss bridge of 50 feet clear span was erected. This bridge is constructed of Mwenya timber with steel tie bars and pin connections to trusses. The roadway has a width of 12 feet, and a clear headway for traffic of 10' 3", and is at a height of 15' above the bed of the stream. The abutments are of masonry in Portland cement mortar.

Blantyre-Chola Road.

This road was improved generally, including widening in many places and straightening and building culverts where necessary in order to make the road suitable for waggon traffic between Blantyre and railhead.

Zomba-Liwonde Road.

This road was reconstructed from within five miles of Liwonde to a point about three miles from the Domasi River

crossing, a length of 13 miles. The work included many deviations in order to obtain a better alignment or to improve gradients. At Mkula Hill a deviation $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length was made having a gradient of 1 in 14 to replace the old road with gradients of 1 in 6 to 1 in 12.

A timber trestle bridge was erected to carry the Zomba-Liwonde Road over the Domasi River. This bridge has two trestles 15 feet high and is built with Mpini and Mwenya timber, the abutments being of dry stone rubble.

Liwonde-Mvera Road.

This road was straightened, and re-made from Liwonde to Chapola's village, a distance of 25 miles. The work included a deviation from the Nkasi stream to Chapola's village, the new road being laid off in a practically straight line between these two points instead of going through Mvera as was the case with the old road. This deviation is $9\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length, and is some three miles shorter than the corresponding stretch of old road.

Liwonde-Ncheu Road.

This road was re-made for a distance of some 10 miles, commencing at a point some six miles from Liwonde, also a new deviation of two miles to connect up to that portion of the new Ncheu road made during the previous year. The work included five fairly large bridges.

Dowa-Mzimba Road.

The Ngara-Loudon section of this road was completed during the year under report, the portions from Dowa to Ngara and from Loudon to Mzimba having been completed during the previous year. The length of road constructed was as follows:—

Roads.						Miles.
Ngara to Kusungu (constructed by District Resident)	...	...	...	...	...	15
Kusungu to Dwangwa	...	...	...	...	...	17
Dwangwa to Loudon	...	...	...	...	...	55
						87

Bridges were constructed at $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 miles from the Dwangwa River, and one at the Mzimba River. This latter is 150 feet long, with three brick piers, and brick abutments carrying a roadway 10 feet wide at a height of 23 feet above the bed of the stream.

BUILDINGS SUB-DEPARTMENT.

52. The Buildings Department has likewise carried out a year's heavy work, and the style of house now erected for officials shows a general improvement in design and workmanship to those erected in previous years.

It may be mentioned that the type of house usual in Nyasaland is of burnt brick, with a corrugated iron roof and broad verandahs. The roof is painted tile red, so that the general aspect of the Nyasaland European settlements is pleasing to the eye, and the fact that the houses are all of burnt brick makes them likewise more comfortable to reside in than the generality of houses in other parts of Africa, which are often composed of corrugated iron.

In this part of Africa it has been found that brick houses are much cheaper to build than those composed of other material.

The chief building now being undertaken by the Public Works Department is the new Government Offices at Zomba. Owing to the building season being necessarily curtailed by the rains, which last from November to the following April, the course of erection of such a large building has proved somewhat slow, but steady progress is maintained, and it is hoped that a portion of the new offices may be at least occupied by the commencement of next year. The building will be by far the largest building in this part of Africa, and it will house the whole of the Government Offices, and it is hoped will include a Council Chamber as well. The building is of burnt brick, and consists of one main block with two wings *en echelon* on either side. It is double storied, and when complete will be surmounted by a tower and clock. It is proposed also to light the whole of the building by electric light.

The principal other buildings which have been under construction during the course of the year comprise a partial re-erection of new military headquarters at Zomba, and the building of a large landing shed at Chiromo. The new public hospital at Blantyre has already been commenced.

As regards the wood-work of the houses, Nyasaland has the great advantage in possessing a timber which, while easily worked, and obtainable in large quantities, is entirely impervious to that pest of tropical existence—the white ant. The wood referred to is commonly known as the Mlanje cedar. The tree, as a matter of fact, is a cypress, and its scientific name is “*Widdringtonia Whytei*.” Its chief habitat is the slopes of Mlanje mountain, which is situated in the south eastern corner of the Protectorate, and rises to a height of over 10,000 feet above sea level. The existing forests are evidently of great age, and as far as possible fallen timber is used for the purpose of sawing and subsequent use.

SURVEY AND LANDS SUB-DEPARTMENT.

53. Survey fees amounting to £234 4s. 3d. were collected during the year.

Crown lands, of a total area of 1,121 acres, have been sold, and monies derived from land sales amount to £206 3s. 10d.

The total rent collected for Crown lands for 1906-7 was £1,249 9s. 10d., as compared with £1,168 16s. 3d. for 1905-6, showing an increase of £80 13s. 7d.

The rents for plots in the inner and outer concessions at Chinde have totalled to £1,256 12s. 1d., as compared with £1,459 13s. for 1905-6.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

54. The electric light, which is installed in all Government houses in Zomba, continues to be a success and a great convenience. The source of power is the Mlungusi River which rises on the Zomba plateau, at a height of about 6,000 feet above sea level, and flows through the township, ensuring an absolutely pure water supply, and at the same time furnishing power for industrial purposes, such as the driving of machinery for the working of timber, and also supplying power for the electric light.

The current is supplied by two dynamos (direct current) with one dynamo permanently in reserve.

These dynamos supply six main lines distributing the current to 41 houses and 591 lamps (8 c.p. or equivalent) showing an increase of 45 lamps over last year. This includes the reading room, stage, and power-house equipment of 40 lamps.

The main line was carried up to the church and to the hospital, but the internal fittings were not installed.

The above installation equals 17,974 Watts; 81·70 amperes calculated at a voltage of 220.

The dynamos are started at sun-down and run until midnight. The Pelton-wheel, however, frequently runs day and night; in the daytime supplying the power for the workshops, and at night supplying the power for the light.

MINERAL SURVEY.

55. As mentioned in the report for the year 1905-6 the necessary expenditure was provided for carrying out a mineral survey of the Protectorate.

56. Mr. Andrew, Chief Mineral Surveyor, and his Assistant, Mr. Bailey, have been carrying out their investigations since June last. They started operations by the inspection of the southern portion of the Protectorate, including the West Shire coal fields, and at the close of the year proceeded to Central Angoniland to investigate the outcrops of galena which were

known to exist in that locality. The specimens which they have transmitted in large numbers to Professor Dunstan of the Imperial Institute are now in course of being examined, consequently the results of their investigation are not yet available.

XII.—RAILWAY.

57. The railway between Chiromo and Blantyre is still under construction. The line has been staked out from 68 miles to 79 miles, the progress for the year being 11 miles. The earthworks, which at the end of the previous year were completed to about 47 miles and were in progress to about 53 miles, have been completed to 74 miles, and are in progress to about 78½ miles; the progress for the year is about 27 miles of completed earthworks. Rails laid to 40 miles, making progress for the year 20 miles. Ballasting made practically no progress during the year.

The average number of men employed has been about 6,000.

The earthworks will be completed to Blantyre in the course of a few months, and there should be no difficulty in the rails being laid to Blantyre by the end of the year (31st December, 1907).

58. The section of the railway between Chiromo and Port Herald has been in constant use during the year, and has much expedited and facilitated trade generally, and has proved a great convenience for passengers leaving and arriving in the country.

XIII.—MILITARY.

59. During the past year reductions have been made in the military establishment of the Protectorate.

Of course, the reduction in strength necessitates a reduction in the different garrisons.

The following table shows the difference:—

—	Before Reduction.	Since Reduction.
Zomba	Indian Contingent (160) Two Companies. Depot, First Battalion. Depot, Second Battalion.	Indian Contingent (100). Two Companies.
Fort Manning ...	Two Companies... ..	One Company.
Fort Mlangeni ...	One Company	Half Company.
Fort Mangoché ...	One Company	Half Company.

60. In order to compensate for reduction of troops with colours, a Reserve is being formed of old soldiers of good

character only. The present idea is to form two Reserve companies of Yaos, but it is too early yet to report on it.

61. During the year a brass band of 30 performers has been trained by a Goanese bandmaster and has proved a great success; the men have learned wonderfully quickly, and have now a repertoire of some 30 pieces; all Africans are to some extent musical, with a very accurate idea of time. The men have learned to play from music, not by ear only. The instruments comprise all those usual in a brass band, but there are not at present any reed instruments.

62. The Inspector-General, King's African Rifles (Brigadier General Sir W. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., C.B.), concluded his inspection of the troops on 20th April, 1906, having visited Mlangeni and Mangoche detachments in addition to Zomba; at the end of the inspection he addressed the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men on parade, saying that he was very well satisfied as to the efficiency of the battalion.

63. It is satisfactory to be able to report that during the past year the membership of the Volunteer Reserve has increased by 25.

64. In September, 1906, the Inter-Protectorate Volunteer competition for the "Manning Cup" was held, the conditions being a team of eight men to be selected by each corps, to fire seven scoring shots at 200, 500, 600, 700, and 800 yards (prone position). Teams from British East Africa, Uganda, and British Central Africa competed, each firing on their own ranges simultaneously. It is satisfactory to report that the British Central Africa Protectorate team won by 15 points from East Africa, and 16 from Uganda, the scores being 1,087, 1,072, and 1,071, respectively.

The victory was the more overwhelming by the fact that the conditions of the competition were only known in this country little over a week before the date fixed for the competitions, and, consequently, time was not available for a fully representative team to be got together. As a matter of fact, no less than six of the team of eight were drawn from the ranks of the Zomba Corps alone.

65. In accordance with the suggestions brought forward in last year's report, an Organising Secretary was appointed, together with three Secretaries for the Chiromo, Blantyre, and Fort Johnston Corps, respectively, the Organising Secretary to act as Secretary of the Zomba Corps. Formal notices of appointment were published in the "Gazette." Remuneration for performing these additional duties was approved by the Commissioner as follows:—

To the Organising Secretary, £25 per annum.

To each Corps Secretary, £10 per annum.

This re-organisation has proved beneficial to the general working of the corps, which are now conducted efficiently.

XIV.—GAME.

66. Thanks to the law forbidding the indiscriminate slaughter of game, there is no doubt that the fauna of the Protectorate tends to show some increase.

Connected with the subject of game protection, it may be mentioned that the extent of the Elephant Marsh Game Reserve was reduced so that the boundaries of the actual reserve are not at present contiguous to the town of Chiromo.

The reserve known as the Shirwa Reserve was also entirely relinquished; as a matter of fact this protected area had not been strictly maintained as a reserve for some years, as the amount of game within it did not justify the expenses which strict rangership would have entailed.

Elephants have no doubt increased in numbers, although it is noticeable that amongst the herds there are very few large tusked, the majority of the animals being females accompanied by their young. This fact tends to confirm the impression that the increase is largely due to the immigration into this Protectorate of herds from other territories where the animals are hunted with greater vigour.

An unfortunate fatality occurred in November whereby Lieutenant Shaw, of the Oxford Light Infantry, attached for service with the King's African Rifles, lost his life whilst in pursuit of these animals.

It would appear that this officer was charged unexpectedly by a young bull elephant at which he had not fired, and the presence of which, in the long grass, he did not suspect. The one redeeming feature of the affair, if, indeed, there can be said to be any in such an untoward incident, was the staunchness with which the native followers kept to their master; for there can be little doubt that, had they not immediately driven the infuriated animal away by firing at it, Lieutenant Shaw would have been killed on the spot, whereas he survived for some days, but died in spite of the most careful attention in Fort Jameson Government Hospital a few days afterwards.

This, fortunately, is the only accident with regard to game which has taken place amongst Europeans during the year under report.

Statistics regarding the deaths of natives by wild animals are difficult to obtain, but there is no doubt that a considerable number are killed, especially by the larger carnivora, although it can be asserted with some confidence that the numbers killed are exceptionally small compared to deaths from similar causes in other tropical countries.

This is no doubt greatly due to the fact that there is a large amount of game still in the country, upon which lions and leopards prey in preference to mankind.

It is a somewhat remarkable fact to note how rarely lions are seen; and it will be noted from the return* of animals killed in the Protectorate how very few have been killed during the year. This is chiefly owing to the animals themselves having their lairs in remote localities, and to the nature of the growth with which much of the country is covered, which precludes the hunting of these beasts with any facility.

Probably the worst district for lions within the Protectorate is that which lies between the two Government Stations of Ngara and Dowra, a region far removed from any European settlement. It may also be parenthetically mentioned here that this district is a long way from any game reserve.

Lions in the locality above referred to appear to have adopted an attitude of great hostility towards mankind, and, unlike the lions in other parts of the Protectorate, seem to make deliberate attacks on native villages.

In this district all the villages are surrounded (and it is only in this district that such is the case) by a very high stockade about 15 feet in height, the top of the stockade being thickly woven with sharp brambles and thorns.

In spite of these precautions, instances have not been uncommon during the past year of lions leaping over this lofty enclosure (not of course by a direct bound, but in the same way that a cat will climb a wall), and leaping down into the village; the animal then deliberately proceeds to break into a hut, either by charging the wall, or else by tearing the thatch of the roof away; and a case is on record during the past year of a lion thus entering the village, leaping back again over the 15 feet stockade with a man in his mouth. In one case a lion broke down the wall of a hut, and only finding goats occupying the same, left these animals unharmed, and deliberately forced an entry into a neighbouring hut in which natives were sleeping.

Guns and rifles for the purpose of protection are always loaned to any native who applies for them, but, as a rule, the native finds greater security behind his formidable stockade at night, than in endeavouring to hunt or kill dangerous game.

Leopards do comparatively little harm—their chief depredations being confined to the killing of a few goats and sheep; no instance has occurred of a leopard killing or attacking either a European or native, and, indeed, there appears to be some reason to suppose that the leopard inhabiting this part of Africa is of a smaller and less dangerous kind than the panther or leopard of Asia. This appears to be especially the case in leopards inhabiting the larger hill ranges of the Protectorate, and although they are cunning, and of a boldness which is almost equivalent to stupidity, the animal itself is of comparatively small size and of light weight. One killed recently

* Annex No. IV.

in Zomba, after dragging away a calf, only weighed 53 lbs. immediately after death.

As will be seen from the return of game killed, the number of leopards killed by Europeans during the year is 21. This number does not, of course, include those trapped and killed by natives.

It may not be without interest to record that a case of a lion killing and partially eating a leopard occurred in the Central Angoniland District during the year.

As regards the smaller variety of game, this appears to be generally on the increase, as might be expected as a result of the Game Regulations. Buffalo, which at one time appeared to be almost extinct with the exception of one or two known herds, have no doubt likewise increased in numbers, but these animals are almost solely confined to the existing game reserves.

67. Details were given in a report on the Protectorate for the year 1905-6 of the attempts which have been made to acclimatise trout in the mountain streams of Nyasaland. The first attempt failed, but the second experiment which took place in June, 1906, has every prospect of turning out a success.

It will be remembered that 5,000 rainbow trout ova, supplied by the North of England Fish Hatchery, were imported last year, and the ova were successfully transported from the sea coast to the Shire Highlands. About 500 eggs, which were in good condition, were placed in the tanks which had been prepared for them, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that the fish have thrived in an extraordinary manner. Although it was not anticipated that the whole of the 500 ova would reach maturity, it is calculated that there are about 100 fish now in the tanks, and although they have scarcely been a year there, there are now many which are over 8 inches in length, and they, all of them, appear to be in a strong and healthy condition.

ANNEX I.

TABLE I.

The following table shows the values of imports and exports during the five years 1902-3 to 1906-7:—

Year.	Values.	
	Imports for Home Consumption.	Exports of Protectorate Products.
	£	£
1902-3	153,991	34,766
1903-4	207,686	27,409
1904-5	220,697	48,449
1905-6	222,581	56,778
1906-7	242,935	50,247

NOTE.—The above figures include Exports of Specie, 1906-7, £1,109.

TABLE II.

The following table shows the values of articles imported for home consumption during the year ended 31st March, 1907, as compared with the previous year:—

—	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Arms and Ammunition ...	1,454	1,976	522	—
Alcohol (Spirituous Liquors)	2,203	2,518	315	—
Provisions (including Beer and Wines).	26,248	19,343	—	6,905
Hardware	25,860	13,802	—	12,058
Soft Goods	96,337	128,587	32,250	—
Free Goods	61,666	56,199	—	5,467
Sundries	3,813	11,410	7,597	—
Specie	5,000	9,100	4,100	—
Totals	222,581	242,935	44,784	24,430

Net Increase, £20,354.

NOTE.—The above figures include:—

—	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£
Imports by the British Central Africa Administration.	7,527	6,002
Imports by the Shire Highlands Railway Company.	32,569	35,575
Totals	40,096	41,577

TABLE III.

EXPORTS during the year ended the 31st of March, 1907, as COMPARED with the PREVIOUS YEAR.

	1905-6			1906-7.			Increase.		Decrease.	
	Weight in lbs.	Price per lb.	Value.	Weight in lbs.	Price per lb.	Value.	Weight.	Value.	Weight.	Value.
Coffee	773,919	s. d. 0 5	£ 16,123	454,111	s. d. 0 5	£ 9,461	—	—	319,808	£ 6,662
Ivory	4,300	2 0	1,290	4,781	7 6	1,793	481	503	—	—
Hippopotamus teeth...	296	2 0	29	297	2 0	29	1	—	—	—
Rubber	17,283½	2 6	2,160	16,403	4 3	3,486	—	1,326	880½	—
Oil seeds	3,458	0 4	58	14,109	0 4	235	10,651	177	—	—
Beeswax	115,639	1 0	5,832	66,779	1 0	3,339	—	—	49,830	2,493
Strophanthus	32,878	5 0	8,219	31,477	2 6	3,935	—	—	1,401	4,284
Chillies	20,291	0 4	339	6,336	0 4	106	—	—	13,955	233
Tobacco	198,994½	0 4	3,317	413,316	0 4	6,889	214,321½	3,572	—	—
Cotton	776,621	0 5	16,179	526,119	0 7	15,345	—	—	250,502	884
Ground-nuts	588,692	0 1	2,453	487,663	1d.&1½d.	2,930	—	477	101,029	—
Sundries	—	—	779	—	—	1,590	—	811	—	—
Specie... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1,109	—	1,109	—	—
Totals	2,533,372	—	56,778	2,021,391	—	50,247	225,454½	7,975	737,435½	14,506

Decrease: Weight, 511,981 lbs. ; Value, £6,531.

TABLE IV.

The following table shows the values of import and export of goods in transit during the five years 1902-3 to 1906-7 :—

A. TRANSIT TO SURROUNDING TERRITORIES.

Year.					Imports.
					£
1902-3	...	...	...	...	47,638
1903-4	...	...	...	...	28,139
1904-5	...	...	...	...	8,725
1905-6	...	...	...	...	31,351
1906-7	...	...	...	...	20,402

B. TRANSIT FROM SURROUNDING TERRITORIES.

Year.					Exports.
					£
1902-3	...	...	...	...	24,141
1903-4	...	...	...	...	12,067
1904-5	...	...	...	...	6,327
1905-6	...	...	...	...	6,148
1906-7	...	...	...	...	19,855

TABLE V.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Imports for Home Consumption.						Exports—Products of the Protectorate.				
	United Kingdom.		British Colonies.		Foreign Countries.		Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	Excluding Specie.	Specie.	Excluding Specie.	Specie.	Excluding Specie.	Specie.					
1902-3 ..	£ 115,488	£ 10,200	£ 12,245	—	£ 16,048	—	£ 153,991	£ 28,098	£ 996	£ 5,672	£ 34,766
1903-4 ..	173,845	1,000	10,682	—	22,159	—	207,686	21,880	1,340	4,189	27,409
1904-5 ..	175,370	8,200	12,803	—	24,324	—	220,697	32,406	3,102	12,941	48,449
1905-6 ..	160,496	5,000	21,950	—	35,135	—	222,581	35,103	7,709	13,966	56,778
1906-7 ..	183,452	9,100	12,243	—	38,140	—	242,935	32,663	6,767	10,817	50,247

TABLE VI.

The following table shows the value of the "transit" trade during the year 1906-7 as compared with 1905-6:—

	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£
<i>En route</i> to surrounding districts	31,351	20,402
From surrounding territories	6,148	19,855
Totals	37,499	40,257

ANNEX II.

MEDICAL REPORT by Dr. H. HEARSEY, Principal
Medical Officer.

POPULATION.

The total European population numbered 583, as against 608 and 597 in the two preceding years.

The Asiatic population under registration numbered 518, showing a decrease of 33 as compared with last year's return.

1. EUROPEANS, ASIATICS, and NATIVES within the
PROTECTORATE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Europeans	452	131	583
Asiatics	509	9	518
Natives	418,338	509,017	927,355
Total	419,299	509,157	928,456

2. COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the ESTIMATED POPULA-
TION in the PROTECTORATE during the previous three
years:—

	1903-4.			1904-5.			1905-6.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Europeans.	384	100	484	488	111	597	480	148	608
Asiatics ..	274	6	280	451	17	468	547	4	551
Natives ..	363,026	429,700	792,726	417,356	506,144	923,500	441,113	535,528	976,641

BIRTHS.

There were 19 European births registered during the year, giving a birth-rate of 32·59 per mille. The rates for the last three preceding years were as follows:—

—	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
Rate per 1,000	27·60	31·08	29·60

3. RETURN of BIRTHS REGISTERED by DISTRICTS, 1906-7.

District.	Males	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1,000.
Blantyre	6	3	9	—
Zomba	1	3	4	—
Central Angoniland	2	1	3	—
West Nyasa	1	—	1	—
North Nyasa	1	1	2	—
Total	11	8	19	32·59

DEATHS.

The deaths registered during the year totalled 35, giving a death-rate of 31·79 per 1,000. These deaths were made up as follows:—

European males	23
European females	1
European infants	4
Asiatics	7
Total	35

The European death-rate was 48·03 per 1,000. The Asiatic death-rate is returned at 13·51 per 1,000.

4. The following TABLE gives the EUROPEAN DEATH-RATES per mille for the three preceding years.

—	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.
Rate per 1,000	37·11	23·06	34·54

It will be observed that whilst the European population in the Protectorate has decreased from 608 to 583, the death-rate per 1,000 has advanced from 34·54 to 48·03.

Fourteen of the European male deaths occurred among those working on the Shiré Highlands Railway, and five of the remaining nine among those living in the Luchenza Valley, in the

vicinity of the railway, leaving four only to be accounted for elsewhere in the Protectorate; two of these were due to black-water fever and one each to meningitis and alcoholic coma.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Blackwater fever was returned as the cause of death in five cases, as against seven in the preceding year. Four deaths were returned as due to "malaria and hyperpyrexia"; these took place in the last quarter of the year under review, and all at Chiromo, in the Ruo District. Of the four deaths returned as due to pneumonia, three occurred among Asiatics.

5. DEATHS REGISTERED by DISTRICTS.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.	Rate per 1,000.
Lower Shire	2	—	2	—
Ruo	11	1	12	—
Blantyre	13	1	14	—
Zomba	2	—	2	—
Upper Shire	1	—	1	—
South Nyasa... ..	1	—	1	—
Central Angoniland...	1	—	1	—
Marimba	1	—	1	—
North Nyasa... ..	1	—	1	—
Total	33	2	35	31·79

6. DEATHS REGISTERED (EUROPEAN and ASIATIC), and rate per 1,000.

—	Adults.		Infants.		Total.	Rate per 1,000.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
Europeans ...	33	1	3	1	28	48·03
Asiatics ...	7	—	—	—	7	13·51
Total ...	30	1	3	1	35	31·79

7. CAUSES of DEATHS REGISTERED during 1906-7.

—	Males.	Females.	Total
Abscess of bowel	1	—	1
Acute strangulation of intestine ...	1	—	1
Alcoholic coma	1	—	1
Alcoholism	1	—	1
Aortic disease	1	—	1

7. CAUSES of DEATHS REGISTERED during 1906-7—
continued.

	Males.	Females.	Total
Blackwater fever	5	—	5
Cancer of throat	1	—	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal meningitis of malarial origin.	1	—	1
Cut throat	1	—	1
Dysentery	3	—	3
Gastritis	1	—	1
General paralysis	1	—	1
General weakness... ..	1	—	1
Heart failure	—	1	1
Malaria and hyperpyrexia	4	—	4
Malarial fever	2	—	2
Malignant intestinal growth	1	—	1
Malta fever	1	—	1
Meningitis... ..	1	—	1
Pneumonia	4	—	4
Pregnancy	—	1	1
Total	33	2	35

No statistics of native births and deaths are obtainable.

PREVALENCE of SICKNESS in DIFFERENT SEASONS of the
YEAR and NOTES as to the GENERAL CHARACTER, &c.,
of the DISEASES PREVAILING.

Small-pox.

There were fourteen cases, with three deaths noted, as compared with sixteen cases and one death last year. Thirteen of these occurred in one district during the months of October, November, and December. Epidemics of small-pox, such as were common in the Protectorate some years ago, do not now occur. Sporadic or imported cases are at once reported, and measures immediately taken for their isolation and the vaccination of natives in the surrounding villages.

Blackwater Fever.

Eighteen cases of this disease have been treated during the year, with two deaths, as compared with 15 cases and seven deaths last year. Of the former, one died before the medical officer's arrival. Of the latter, four occurred among employees of the railway, the remaining three (two planters and one official) not having been in a position to receive immediate attention. The success of the treatment of this disease initiated in this country is therefore apparent. Blackwater fever is most prevalent at the termination of the wet and beginning of the cold season, *i.e.*, during the months of February, March, April, and May.

The etiology of this, the most fatal of all European diseases in Tropical Africa, is still a vexed question. In this country certain facts connected with the disease deserve consideration:—

1. Natives never suffer from this disease at any period of their life. A true case of "blackwater" has never been recorded in a native. Sikhs, and Asiatics generally, all suffer. Two cases of blackwater in half-caste children have been recorded.

2. Every person attacked has at some time previously (and generally only a short time previously) suffered from malaria. Clinical evidence and repeated blood examination prove this to be the case. Most frequently those persons are attacked who have suffered from repeated attacks of malaria.

3. Persons who have never had malaria never get blackwater fever.

4. In districts where malaria is most intense, and where anopheles are most numerous, blackwater fever is most common.

5. In very few cases can the influence of quinine be excluded as the exciting cause of the attack. In 50 cases collected, quinine had been taken a few hours previously in every case. Cases have occurred in hospital where a patient with the typical clinical symptoms of malaria and with parasites in his blood has developed "blackwater" on being given five grains of quinine for the first time.

6. In many cases when quinine is given after the initial attack, "blackwater" again supervenes, this being presumably the only apparent disturbing factor.

Regarding the question as to whether quinine should or should not be given, experience in this country has shown that quinine should never be given as a routine treatment. If after the third day, when the urine has cleared and the temperature remains high, and if malarial parasites are found in the blood, quinine may be cautiously administered, preferably by intramuscular injection. If an examination of the blood gives negative results, quinine should not be given.

Malarial Fever.

There were 305 cases of malarial fevers amongst Europeans, with seven deaths, as compared with 189 cases last year, with four deaths. Of this number, 12 were returned as malignant tertian, 38 as "remittent," six as "pernicious," one as a fever of "irregular" type, and 148 as "type undiagnosed." Malarial fevers reached their highest intensity in the quarter ending March. This corresponds with the season showing the heaviest rainfall, combined with a daily high temperature. Anopheles are abundant during this season.

The malarial fevers of this country are generally "irregular" in type, and in many cases, especially in first infections occurring on the plains, tend to become "subcontinuous." Five cases were reported from one station; four during the month of January, in which grave pernicious symptoms developed, all four patients dying in a state of hyperpyrexia.

Dysentery and Allied Diarrhoeal Diseases.

There were 480 cases of dysentery, with four deaths, as compared with 963 cases and 12 deaths last year. There were 22 cases amongst Europeans, with two deaths, as against 61 cases with the same number of deaths last year.

There were in all 1,291 cases of diarrhoeal diseases, other than dysentery, with one death, compared with 1,258 cases and two deaths last year.

Diarrhoeal diseases were highest in the quarter ending December. Many of these cases possibly have their origin in the presence of intestinal worms, which irritate the bowel and afford a nidus for other pathogenic organisms. The relationship between the different organisms of the colon group and the diarrhoeal diseases of natives, and the further question of the part played by intestinal worms and the amoeba dysenteriae in the production of native dysenteries, would be an investigation productive of practical results, as dysentery is, of all diseases, responsible for the greatest mortality amongst natives from childhood to old age.

Enteric.

Two cases of enteric fever amongst Europeans were returned, with no attendant mortality, as compared with five cases and two deaths last year.

Enteric fever is practically unknown amongst the natives, though dysentery and other allied diarrhoeal diseases, as already pointed out, are the most common of all complaints in the native villages from infancy onwards, and due in most cases to organisms of the colon group.

Pneumonia and other Diseases of the Respiratory System.

There were 62 cases of pneumonia, with 11 deaths, as compared with 84 cases and 10 deaths last year. 2,046 cases of bronchitis were returned, as compared with 1,048 cases last year.

Diseases of the respiratory system, and especially of the lower respiratory tract, are of special importance on account of their wide prevalence among the native population and the large mortality to which they give rise. Some, such as milder cases, of bronchial affection, are generally very trivial; the acute pneumonias, on the other hand, are among the most wide-

spread and fatal of all the acute diseases which affect the natives of this country. It is especially a disease of the cold season, most cases occurring during the months of May, June, and July. It not rarely assumes an endemic form, affecting the occupant of one hut or one encampment. Young adult males are most frequently affected.

The mortality is very high, about 50 per cent. of the deaths in the villages during the months of May, June, and July are from pneumonia. In the return* of diseases and deaths at the Government hospitals and dispensaries accompanying this report, 62 cases, with 11 deaths, are shown, which gives a very misleading impression both of its incidence and mortality in the villages. These are cases treated in the military or prison hospitals, and at the dispensaries; severe cases amongst the general population are not seen.

The following types are observed:—

1. *Pneumococcus septicaemia*.
2. Apex pneumonia, with marked meningeal symptoms; the area of lung tissue affected is very small, and the expectoration and cough may be slight.
3. A lobar pneumonia, with typical physical signs.
4. A broncho-pneumonia, due to streptococcal infection in which small areas of lung are involved.
5. A small proportion of the cases are tubercular.

Yaws.

There were 57 cases of yaws returned, with no death. In one instance the subject was a European—a missionary, and the first recorded case of its kind—where the infection was distinctly traceable to the accidental inoculation of a finger.

The disease cannot be said to be widely prevalent, though cases are occasionally to be met with all over the country. In June last, however, the Medical Officer of Fort Johnston reported that yaws was very prevalent in villages on the south-west arm of Lake Nyasa. A segregation camp was formed, and 38 cases isolated, the subjects having suffered from the disease for varying periods. The majority of the cases were husband and wife, or mother and children. The clinical features of these cases were as follows:—There was neither fever nor debility; headache and rheumatic pains in the limbs were marked and persistent. There was no regular enlargement of lymphatic glands; the lesions were multiple and in various stages of development. Fresh crops of pustules made their appearance from time to time, and ulceration was noted in ten cases. The localities involved were the chest, arms, face, neck, and axillæ nearly as frequently as the scalp. The feet were affected in three cases. There was no involvement of the mucous membranes, except by continuity at the nostrils, lips, and anus. There was no evidence of any syphilitic lesion.

* Not printed.

Deformities of the hands were present in some cases, resembling syphilitic or chronic ulcerative dactylitis.

The treatment adopted was mercury and iodide of potash, with local cleansing of the sores and the application of sulphate of copper, and mercurial ointment (Ung. Hydrarg. Nit.) for the ulcerations. Six months after treatment eleven cases had cleared up; twelve showed marked improvement with diminution of pain; eight slight improvement and a decrease in the number of lesions. Four showed no improvement, but in all the cases treated, with the exception of two, there was marked diminution of pain.

Sleeping Sickness.

No case of human trypanosomiasis or of sleeping sickness has been reported up to the present. The territory of North-Eastern Rhodesia has also, so far, remained free of infection, though imported cases exist and have existed on the borders in the Congo Free State, namely, at Kasenga, near the Johnston Falls, at Lukonzolwa, west of Lake Mweru, and at Mvua, on the west shore of Lake Tanganyika.

The southern limit of the endemic area in the Congo State is described as lying north of a line commencing at Mvua, on Lake Tanganyika, and passing through Mpweto, Kiambi, Ankoro, Mbuli, Mwana-Kialo, Mutombo-Mukulu, and thence westward to the Portuguese boundary. As regards the Lake Tanganyika region, sleeping sickness is reported to exist all along the west coast, north of Baudoinville, in association with *G. palpalis*; on the east of the lake, imported cases of the disease from the Congolese territory have been found at Ujiji; the south and south-eastern shores, however, have so far remained free of imported cases.

Having these facts in view, the question arises, what will be the probable line of entry of the disease should this Protectorate ultimately become infected?

A memorandum issued by the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in May last predicted the early infection of the southern shore of Lake Tanganyika, and stated that the invasion of the northern borders of this Protectorate would only be a question of months. This assertion, which pre-supposed a large commercial and native route between the two lakes, has happily not been realised. Local enquiries have elicited the information that there is practically no traffic and no movement of large bodies of natives along this route. A small number no doubt travel from the North Nyasa district, seeking work at Kasama, Abercorn, and Fife, but the inducements are not great.

The undoubted source of danger to this country, however, lies in the existence of a large traffic along the route from Karonga, on the north-west shore of the lake, through Mirongo, Kasama, Luena, Fort Rosebery, and Madona in North-Eastern Rhodesia, to the territory of the Tanganyika Concessions,

Limited, and to the mines of North-Western Rhodesia. It has been ascertained that large numbers of natives from the North Nyasa and Angoniland districts travel along this route. North-Eastern Rhodesia is itself threatened all along its border contiguous with the Congo Free State, the boundary extending from the western shore of Lake Tanganyika along the Congolese border to Lake Mweru, and then onwards along the Luapula river. This danger is especially urgent for a stretch of 150 miles from Kazembe to the 12th degree of latitude. *G. palpalis* is known to be present at points along the boundary, having been found at Mvua, on the west of Tanganyika, at Mpweto, north of Lake Mweru, and on the west of the Luapula river near the Nafunta Falls, while *G. morsitans* is widely prevalent. The most likely points of invasion of North-Eastern Rhodesia are (a) at the north-east corner of Lake Mweru, from the endemic area on the west of Tanganyika, (b) at the Luapula crossings south of Lake Mweru, especially at Madona, which is the regular ferry for traffic to and from the Tanganyika Concessions, Ltd., and in a lesser degree to and from the railway and mines in North-Western Rhodesia (about 20,000 natives are said to pass this way annually), the disease in this instance finding its way from endemic areas in the Congo State.

A Government medical post has therefore been established at Karonga, and natives returning by the route referred to are systematically examined. Investigations have also been made, and will be continued, with the object of ascertaining the distribution of tsetse fly at the north and north-west of the lake. Journeys already made to the Henga valley and Nkamanga country have failed to find fly. There are large herds of cattle owned by natives in this, the North Nyasa, district.

The arrival of the sleeping sickness experts who are travelling to this Protectorate by way of North-Western Rhodesia is awaited with interest.

A good deal of work was done during the year in two directions:—

1. To determine the incidence of enlarged cervical glands in apparently healthy natives of the different districts.
2. To map out the distribution of tsetse flies and to ascertain the different species found.

In determining the incidence of enlarged cervical glands the following scheme of classification was followed:—

- + = one gland at least $1.5 \times .75$ c.m. or several $1 \times .5$ c.m.
- + - = distinctly palpable glands less than +
- + - - = one or two very small glands or shot-like glands just palpable.
- - = no glands palpable.

Appended are some tabulated results*, which afford a working knowledge of the frequency of palpable cervical glands in apparently healthy natives. All the natives examined were from widely separated districts. Gland puncture was done in selected cases, but with negative results.

* See page 64.

It was considered advisable to enter into this question as fully as circumstances would permit, and in view of a statement emanating from the Liverpool School that, "in practice, every negro with enlarged neck glands must be suspected of being affected with sleeping sickness."

I am therefore of opinion that, having regard to the results tabulated above, this statement needs to be modified, since at least about 8 per cent. of healthy natives have enlarged cervical glands, classified here as + and + — and without obvious cause.

Distribution of Tsetse Flies.

Appended is a map* of Nyasaland, showing the distribution of tsetse flies as at present known. With reference to the areas shown as fly-infected—

- (1) *G. morsitans* is found all over the localities indicated;
- (2) *G. fusca* and *G. pallidipes* have been found in the Karonga district;
- (3) *G. fusca*, in the neighbourhood of Chiromo;
- (4) *G. palpalis* has not been found.

The following observations on the habits of the tsetse may be of interest:—

"Fly may be observed in a given locality in certain seasons, but not in others.

"They may be seen in certain years, but not in others.

"They may be seen on some days, but not on others (due possibly to different conditions of weather—clouds, sun, wind, &c.).

"In Nyasaland the dislike of tsetse fly to open ground is very marked. They do not require dense forest, but apparently must have something in the way of shade. Going through bush infested with tsetse, even the crossing of a small clearing or little dambo (plain) at once causes the numbers to diminish, only those on the backs of men or hovering about continuing into open ground.

"About 2,500 feet above sea level may be taken as the elevation up to which in Nyasaland tsetse may be found. There are many districts below this level which, however, never have fly. The whole of the British stretch of territory lying immediately east of the southern part of the east shore of Nyasa lake is without tsetse, though that portion of it near to the lake is at a low elevation. (After leaving the southern end of Nyasa, however, tsetse appears in the low country.)"

Beriberi.

There were 30 cases of beriberi, with eight deaths. Twenty-four of these were repatriates from the Johannesburg mines, who were detained on examination by the Medical Officer of

* Not printed.

Chiromo, and isolated under treatment until found to be free of symptoms. Four cases occurred in the Fort Johnston district, where a serious epidemic had taken place in 1905, but there was no recrudescence of the disease in epidemic form in any part of the Protectorate.

The etiological factors associated with the epidemic of 1905 were fully discussed in my last report, and therefore do not need recapitulation here. The conclusion then arrived at, namely, that the disease was imported into this Protectorate and had no connection with the ingestion of infected or other food, would appear to be borne out by the fact that beriberi undoubtedly does find its way into this country from other parts, as, for example, from the Johannesburg mines, already referred to. Had these cases not been isolated, beriberi would probably again have manifested itself in epidemic form.

Tick Fever.

This disease is prevalent in the villages on the west and north of Lake Nyasa, and is transmitted by the bite of the "nkufu" tick, *O. moubata*. A considerable degree of immunity or tolerance to the disease is acquired by natives dwelling in the infested localities.

Contagious Conjunctivitis.

566 cases of this disease were treated during the year; flies are the chief carriers of contagion, and it often assumes epidemic form in villages.

Cattle Diseases.

Many localities are deadly to cattle from the presence of tsetse fly disease (*T. Brucei*). African coast fever, as described by Koch, is occasionally seen.

Some cases of horse sickness have been notified; two recently among animals imported from Durban.

Piroplasma Disease.

This (*Piroplasma canis*) is fatal to the majority of imported European dogs, of which a large number have recently died. A certain degree of tolerance rather than immunity is acquired after the second generation.

Epidemic and contagious diseases are dealt with under the Epidemic and Contagious Diseases Ordinance (No. 4) of 1903. Regulations are drawn up by the Principal Medical Officer as occasions arise, and these are enforced by His Majesty's Commissioner. There is no compulsory notification of infectious diseases, and permanent infectious diseases hospitals are not provided. Cases of infectious diseases are isolated in temporary huts under a police guard, and these huts are subsequently burnt. No epidemic of a serious nature occurred during the year.

GENERAL SANITARY CONDITION of the PROTECTORATE.

The sanitary arrangements in all the townships are attended to by Town Councils on the lines laid down in the Township Regulations of 1897, and to these the Medical Officers act in an advisory capacity.

The general sanitary condition of the various townships and out-stations is being gradually improved. Better housing accommodation is now provided; cottages with well-ventilated rooms and wide verandahs are now the rule. Greater attention requires to be given to providing locations for natives at a distance from European quarters, especially at the out-stations, as this is one of the most important sanitary measures in the tropics.

Native villages, with the possible exception of those in the vicinity of European settlements, are practically in their primitive condition as far as sanitary arrangements are concerned.

TOWNSHIPS.

Zomba.

Average European population	...	...	73
Average Indian population	...	...	177
Deaths during the year	...	...	2

The Town Council consists of two officials and one non-official, periodically nominated, with the Resident as Chairman.

The general sanitary condition of Zomba is satisfactory.

There is a large native location provided for natives working in the township; it is well looked after from a sanitary point of view, and is a safe distance from European dwellings. Water supply: Excellent; derived from a mountain stream which flows down at one extreme end of the township. It is safeguarded from contamination in its course down the plateau (where Europeans occasionally reside and where natives are frequently engaged on work connected with forestry) by police patrol.

Disposal of refuse: The closet and dry earth systems are in use.

In addition to the native location there is an Indian quarter for "banian" traders, which is inspected weekly.

The military camp is some distance from the township, and comprises officers' dwellings, barracks for Indian troops and native soldiers, and the central prison. The sanitation and water supply at the camp are excellent, the shallow trench system of latrines being provided for the use of the troops, and with satisfactory results.

Blantyre.

Average European population	...	...	192
Average Indian population	...	...	90
Deaths during the year	...	...	14

The sanitary arrangements in Blantyre are good. The Town Council is elective, and a sanitary inspector (European) is employed to inspect and report on all sanitary matters. Water

supply: Unsatisfactory. Shallow wells provide the only drinking water available, and this is usually milky in colour from contact with clay beds. The water has generally to be boiled and filtered to make it potable.

Disposal of refuse: The dry earth system is in general use, the contents of the pails being buried in trenches.

Here also there is a large "banian" quarter for Indian traders.

Chiromo.

Average European population	...	...	76
Average Indian population	...	...	133
Deaths during the year	...	...	12

This is the Customs station on the Lower Shiré river, and has been the headquarters of the Shiré Highlands Railway construction staff. The Town Council comprises landowners and occupiers of plots within the township, with the Resident as Chairman.

The sanitary conditions are satisfactory, but owing to the close proximity of extensive marshes, mosquitoes, especially anopheles, are numerous. Borrow pits excavated for the railway embankment have been filled up in the neighbourhood of the township.

Water supply: From the Ruo river, which requires to be boiled and filtered before use.

Disposal of refuse: The dry earth system is in use, shallow trench latrines being provided for the use of natives. All refuse formerly emptied into the river at the "Point" is now buried in pits.

There is a native location and the usual "banian" quarters.

Port Herald.

Average European population	...	...	20
Average Indian population	...	...	80
Deaths during the year	...	...	2

This station, as a residence for Europeans, has recently grown in size, as it is the terminus of the Shiré Highlands Railway and a Customs station. The Town Council is elective.

It is the hottest place in the Protectorate, and owing to the presence of extensive marshes in the immediate neighbourhood anopheles and other mosquitoes are numerous all the year round. There is a large Indian quarter.

Fort Johnston.

Average European population	...	...	32
Average Indian population	...	...	15
Deaths during the year	..	..	1

The general sanitary condition is excellent. The Town Council is composed of landowners and occupiers of plots, with the Resident as Chairman. The housing accommodation is good, and the township is well drained. Natives are not allowed to sleep within its boundaries.

For some years past work has been annually undertaken to reclaim the marshy banks of the river in the vicinity of the township. This has been attended with a marked diminution in the number of mosquitoes and an equally marked improvement in the health of the European inhabitants.

Water supply: Good; obtained from deep wells sunk in the sandy soil and at some distance from the river.

Disposal of refuse: The dry earth system is in use, the contents of the pails being buried in shallow trenches or emptied into the river below the township. Latrines, with shallow trenches, are provided for the use of natives.

Vaccination.

The following vaccinations were performed during the year:—

Chiromo	...	...	...	...	1,136
Mlanje	...	...	...	...	11
Blantyre	...	...	...	...	31
Zomba Civil Dispensary	...	...	...	...	1,937
Zomba—The Camp	...	...	...	...	248
Fort Johnston	...	...	...	...	237
Fort Mangoche	...	...	...	...	13
Fort Mlangeni	...	...	...	...	13
Fort Manning	...	...	...	...	247
Lilongwe & Central Angoniland	...	...	...	No returns	
Karonga	...	...	...	...	2
Total					3,875

The vaccinations performed in Central Angoniland would amount to over 2,000 approximately, making a total of about 6,000, the general average of previous years.

Supplies of lymph have been obtained during the year from the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine. The lanolinized calf lymph in collapsible tubes has been found to be very reliable, but the majority of the operations were performed with humanized lymph, collected in tubes from vaccinifers at Zomba for immediate distribution by post.

Lymph has been regularly supplied during the year to medical men connected with the various missions, but no returns of the cases vaccinated through this agency are available. Vaccination is, unfortunately, not compulsory; the majority of those who submit to this operation are persons under adult age.

The great success of vaccination as a preventive measure against those epidemics of small-pox which, until a few years ago, periodically attacked whole districts of this country, warrants a consideration of the advisability of making vaccination compulsory for all persons under adult age, and the establishment of a vaccine farm for the unfailing supply of lymph.

There has undoubtedly been a marked general improvement within recent years in the health of Europeans residing in the Protectorate. This is probably to be explained by a variety of causes acting in conjunction, namely, good housing accommodation, a better knowledge of the conditions of life necessary to the preservation of health in the tropics, more especially with reference to food and drink, and above all to the application individually of those principles which the discovery of the mosquito-malaria theory made practicable.

Compared with "no death" amongst Administration officials during the past year, the great mortality among the European employees of the Shiré Highlands Railway construction is remarkable. Fourteen out of the 23 adult male deaths for the whole of the Protectorate requires some explanation.

The great mortality may be attributed to the following causes:—

(1.) The malarious nature of the country through which the railway runs.

(2.) The lack of proper housing accommodation, more especially with reference to the efficient isolation of European quarters from native encampments—a point of primary importance where large bodies of natives are collectively employed.

(3.) The ignorance or indifference of the employees as to the conditions and habits of life necessary to the preservation of health, with respect to food and drink, and to ordinary prophylaxis.

(4.) In the case of a minority, to exposure and the adverse conditions of life which employment of this nature necessarily entails, and which may be regarded as unavoidable or accidental.

With regard to the health of the larger, and not less important, element of the community, the native population, it is unfortunately not possible to speak with any intimate knowledge. While there is plenty of material at hand, no native hospitals are provided, and our Medical Officers thereby lose all the valuable knowledge which they would otherwise acquire were proper facilities afforded. The nosological return as regards natives, therefore, deals mainly with those cases seeking out-door relief at the various dispensaries, some of which have to be periodically closed down owing to the paucity of medical officers.

Appended are the following returns:—

- (1.) Statistics of population.*
- (2.) Meteorological return.
- (3.) Nosological return.*
- (4.) Return of patients treated in the European hospitals.*
- (5.) Return of European invalidings, and invaliding and discharge among Indian and native troops.*
- (6.) Statement of expenditure for year ended 31st March, 1907.

(2.)

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN for the YEAR APRIL 1st, 1906,
to MARCH 31st, 1907.

Month.	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.		Remarks.
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Mean Shade Daily Maximum.	Mean Shade Daily Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Humidity. (Saturation = 100).	General Direction.	Average Force.	
April ...	151	—	87	54	33	70	·73	72	E.	—	
May ...	143	—	82	51	31	66	·09	73	E.	—	
June ...	134	—	82	49	33	65	·06	71	E.	—	
July ...	139	—	77	47	30	62	·12	68	N.E.	—	
August ...	138	—	83	45	38	64	·08	61	E.	—	
September	147	—	91	53	38	72	Nil	57	E.	—	
October...	156	—	91	54	37	72	3·08	78	E.	—	
November	158	—	92	56	36	74	8·29	71	N.E.	—	
December	157	—	88	54	34	71	10·18	74	E.	—	
January	159	—	89	59	30	72	16·26	72	E.	—	
February	157	—	82	61	21	71	7·04	85	E.	—	
March ...	159	—	84	56	28	74	11·54	81	E.	—	

(6.)

STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for YEAR ended
31st MARCH, 1907.

	£	s.	d.
Personal emoluments—European Staff ...	4,464	18	3
Do. do. Sub. Staff...	251	17	2
	£	s.	d.
Blantyre Staff ...	27	12	0
Chiromo ...	9	10	4
Fort Johnston ...	9	17	6
Karonga ...	3	11	0
Zomba ...	57	7	4
Indian Assistant ...	143	19	0
Carried forward...	4,716	15	5

* Not printed.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE, 1906-7. 63

			£	s.	d.
	Brought forward	...	4,716	15	5
Travelling	...	...	286	1	0
Passages	...	...	743	17	10
Drugs, Instruments, Scientific Research, &c.	...	...	303	2	4
Upkeep of Hospitals and Dispensaries	...	...	147	18	6
Blantyre	...	34	3	5	
Karonga	...	3	3	0	
Chiromo	...	5	9	7	
Fort Johnston	...	13	6	11	
Lilongwe	...	5	2	0	
Zomba	...	16	13	7	
Grant to Mission	...	70	0	0	
Extraordinary	...	...	55	5	3
	Total	...	6,253	0	4

Incidence of Enlarged Cervical Glands in the Posterior Triangle of the Neck.

District or Tribe.	Number.				Percentage.				Total.	Examined at
	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		
A.L.C. carriers of loads from Kasama to Karonga belonging to the following tribes :—Awewa, Atambo, Awemba, Angoni, Asenga, Mambwe, Funge, and Alunga.	—	63	192	158	—	15.25	46.49	38.25	413	Karonga.
Ditto from Kasama	—	4	—	51	—	7.27	—	92.72	55	"
A.L.C. carriers of the Awemba, Amambwe, Ananwanga, and Awewa tribes.	—	11	164	88	—	4.1	—	—	263	"
Natives of the Ananwanga Awewa, Alunga Awemba, Amambwe.	—	6	25	13	—	13.6	—	—	44	"
Natives of the Ahenga from the Henga valley on Runyene river, and from the mouth of the Inkulu river on the Lake shore.	—	9	210	54	—	3.29	—	—	273	Their villages.
Carriers from Liwonde	5	23	—	222	2.0	9.2	—	88.8	250	Zomba.
Carriers from Central Angoniland	3	16	—	143	1.85	9.87	—	88.2	162	"
Askari Zomba	1	12	—	91	.96	11.5	—	87.5	104	"
Askari, camp followers, women, children, servants, and carriers	16	82	—	1,094	1.34	6.87	—	91.8	1,192	Camp, Zomba.
South Nyasa	3	102	200	195	.6	20.4	40	39	500	Fort Johnston.
Central Angoniland	1	18	104	52	.57	10.2	59.4	29.7	175	"
North Nyasa	4	38	94	39	2.2	21.7	53.7	22.2	175	"
Fort Johnston	9	80	209	202	1.8	16	41.8	40.4	500	"
Ankonde, Ahenga, Mambwe and Swahili	—	53	647	433	—	4.6	57.1	38.2	1,133	Karonga.
Central Angoniland, Chipeta	—	5	30	165	—	2.5	15	82.5	200	Lilongwe.

ANNEX III.

REPORT ON COTTON CULTIVATION by Mr. S. SIMPSON,
Cotton Expert.

(i.) Most of the planters in the country have been visited during the year. Their plantations were inspected, and advice given on all cropping problems. The possibilities of successful cultivation of all tropical and sub-tropical products were explained, with the object of broadening the basis of production throughout the Protectorate. The agricultural returns show that this object is to some extent being attained.

It is most satisfactory to note a complete change in the methods of cultivation, compared with how things were done a couple of years ago. Men are beginning to learn that crops, no matter of what kind, cannot thrive without attention, and that the previous haphazard methods, if persisted in, end disastrously.

(ii.) With regard to native cotton-growing, the Residents have been seen, and the whole subject of native cultivation investigated.

(iii.) Experimental cotton gardens were started at Chikwawa, Neno, Liwonde, and Ncheu, with the idea of giving the natives an object lesson in cultivation.

At Zomba a more permanent garden has been established, which is being partially planted up with various crops by the Forestry and Botanical Department. Here a large number of varieties of cotton have been sown, but the heavy rain in what should have been its ripening period has adversely affected the results.

(iv.) American, Brazilian, Peruvian, and Indian cotton seed has been distributed throughout the country for planters to experiment themselves. All willingly tried the varieties at their own expense, and thus the Special Vote allotted to cotton experiments has only been half spent. During August the reports from all the stations will be collected and submitted.

(v.) Cotton seed for native planters has been bought and distributed to the various District Residents. Circulars on cotton cultivation in the vernacular have also been scattered broadcast through the same channel.

(vi.) Insect and fungoid pests have been studied and dealt with.

(vii.) Numerous articles and reports on cotton and cotton-growing have been prepared.

(viii.) Various meetings, as of the Chamber of Commerce, Planters' Association, Agricultural Show, have been attended, with a view to the infusion of new ideas amongst the community generally.

(ix.) The agricultural returns have been carefully studied, and statistics thereon drawn up for publication. When these were collected a large number of questions bearing directly on cotton were submitted to all the planters. The answers to these have been most useful.

(x.) Work has not been solely restricted to cotton. All suitable crops have had my attention, because with varying soils, climates, and seasons, this country will never progress if it holds tenaciously to one crop, be that coffee, tobacco, or cotton.

(xi.) Prospects are improving yearly, in spite of many natural disadvantages, and I see no reason to withdraw in any way the opinion already expressed as to the country's future.

The following TABLE shows the ESTIMATED QUANTITIES of EUROPEAN COTTON which will be produced in 1907 in the DISTRICT named.

District.	Area in Acres.	Crop 1906. Tons unginned.	Estimated Crop 1907. Tons unginned.
Lower Shire	415	43	30
Ruo	1,700	60½	134
West Shire	1,616	110½	234
Blantyre	1,392	158	237½
Mlanje	453	9	60
Zomba	133	11	23
Chikala	200	5	19
Upper Shire	1,108	96½	113
Totals	7,017	493½	850½

STATEMENT showing the COMPARATIVE AREAS under EUROPEAN COTTON CULTIVATION for three years.

District.	Acreage under cultivation.		
	1905.	1906.	1907.
Lower Shire	414	500	415
Ruo	2,452	1,911	1,700
West Shire... ..	3,627	2,797	1,616
Blantyre	11,729	2,352	1,392
Mlanje	743	470	453
Zomba	1,297	176	133
Chikala			200
Upper Shire	1,638	1,693	1,108
South Nyasa	—	2	—
Central Angoniland	—	101	—
North Nyasa	—	10	—
Total	21,900	10,012	7,017

ANNEX IV.
SUMMARY of GAME KILLED under LICENCE in the DISTRICTS of NYASALAND during the YEAR ending
31st MARCH, 1907.

01st MARCH, 1901.

Districts in which killed.	Elephant.		Rhinoceeros.		Gnu Wilde- beest.		Hippopota- mus.		Zebra.		Sable or Roan.		Kudu.		Eland.		Buffalo.		Dik Dik.		Smaller Monkeys.		Marabouts.		Egret.		Antelope.		Gwapt.		Wild Fig.		Jackal.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Port Herald (Lower Shire).	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chromo (Ruoi) "	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chikwawa (West Shire).	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mlanje (Mlanje) "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blantyre (Blantyre)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zomba (Zomba) "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chikala (Chikala) "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lyonde (Upper Shire).	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fort Johnston (South Nyasa).	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kota-Kota (Marim- ba).	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dowa (Central An- goniland).	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dedza (Central An- goniland).	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lilongwe (Central Angoniland).	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chitcheche (West Nyasa).	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kasungu (North Nyasa).	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mombasa (Momb- asa).	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	35	2	1	—	—	6	—	22	27	41	13	36	55	5	20	1	1	1	3	1	6	—	11	—	5	13	46	3	35	7	42	16	1	8

ANNEX IV.—*continued.*

SUMMARY OF GAME KILLED UNDER LICENCE IN THE DISTRICTS OF NYASALAND—*continued.*

Districts in which killed.	Warthog.		Bush Pig.		Hartebeeste.		Impala.		Reedbuck.		Duiker.		Khip- springer.		Steinbuck.		Waterbuck.		Bushbuck.		Fok.		Leche Waterbuck.		Inyala.		Lion.		Leopard.		Hyena.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Port Herald (Lower Shire).	—	—	—	—	1	—	11	—	2	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	11	7	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	
Chiromo (Ruoi).	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	63	16	84	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	293	
Chikwawa (West Shire).	11	4	4	—	1	5	6	3	—	5	5	6	—	—	—	—	24	4	22	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	173	
Mlanje (Mlanje).	11	—	19	3	16	7	—	—	45	11	10	4	4	1	—	—	20	8	36	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	243	
Blantyre (Blantyre).	15	1	—	—	—	26	2	4	1	23	7	10	1	2	—	—	20	6	26	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	215	
Zumbo (Zomba).	10	2	20	—	—	23	9	—	28	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	25	9	16	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	173	
Chikala (Chikala).	14	—	—	—	—	17	5	—	17	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	163	
Liwonde (Upper Shire).	13	1	1	3	28	14	19	4	16	5	18	1	3	—	4	—	29	11	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	230	
Fort Johnston (South Nyasa).	9	1	4	3	33	11	9	3	31	3	14	6	4	—	—	—	96	6	34	16	5	—	—	—	11	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	299	
Kota-Kota (Marim- ba).	—	—	—	4	—	23	—	—	13	6	6	5	—	—	—	—	18	9	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	151	
Dowa (Central An- gonland).	2	6	6	—	11	5	—	1	26	15	3	6	—	—	—	—	3	9	3	3	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	115	
Dedza (Central An- gonland).	1	—	1	2	4	6	6	5	20	2	10	5	2	2	—	—	—	5	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	87	
Lilongwe (Centr- gonland).	5	—	5	2	12	6	1	—	30	16	30	8	4	1	—	—	4	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	157	
Chincheche (West Nyasa).	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	9	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	4	1	—	64
Karonga (North Nyasa).	20	11	—	—	—	1	1	12	1	51	14	7	8	—	3	—	37	3	13	8	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	297
Mombera (Momb- bera).	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
Total	112	27	62	19	178	102	91	26	349	107	142	57	31	8	20	6	278	71	220	75	16	2	3	—	15	4	3	5	17	4	1	2	—	2,607

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PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 561.

CEYLON.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 527.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1908.



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[Cd. 3729-25.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 561.

CEYLON.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 527.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

The Queen's Cottage, Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, 25th April, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for Your Lordship's information, the usual report on the Ceylon Blue Book of 1907, prepared by the Second Assistant Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

HENRY MCCALLUM,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
&c., &c.

REPORT ON THE CEYLON BLUE BOOK OF 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

The revenue in 1907 amounted to Rs. 36,573,825, which was Rs. 2,737,825 more than the estimate, Rs. 1,543,164 more than the revenue of 1906, and Rs. 3,982,303 more than the expenditure.

2. The following table shows the rapid growth of the Ceylon revenue during the last five years:—

Year.			Revenue.	Expenditure.	Excess of Revenue as compared with previous year.	Surplus of Revenue over Expenditure.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1903	...	...	29,423,308	26,714,828	988,150	2,708,480
1904	...	...	30,846,694	32,019,393	1,423,386	1,172,699*
1905	...	...	34,395,336	29,736,899	3,548,642	4,658,437
1906	...	...	35,030,661	32,644,215	635,325	2,386,446
1907	...	...	36,573,825	32,591,522	1,543,164	3,982,303

* Deficit.

3. It is worthy of note that the high figure at which the revenue stood in 1907 was not due to any windfall such as the pearl fishery which swelled the revenue of 1905 by Rs. 2,600,000, while the revenue from land sales was Rs. 700,000 less than in 1906, the year of the "rubber boom." The figure for 1907 therefore represents the present revenue-producing capacity of the Island during a year of general prosperity somewhat more fairly than the figures of the previous two years.

4. The surplus fund of the Colony on December 31st, 1907, amounted to nearly Rs. 16,000,000. The greater part of this sum has, however, been advanced to meet expenditure on certain large public works which are really chargeable to the loan account of the Colony, *e.g.*, Harbour Works, completion of the 1899 Railway Extension programme, Colombo Railway Extensions scheme, duplication of Colombo water main, and Irrigation. Some Rs. 3,000,000 has also been spent on behalf

of the Colombo Municipality on the Colombo Drainage Works. The succession of large surpluses has thus fortunately obviated the necessity of the Colony borrowing while the money market was in an unsettled state. When the next loan is raised these advances will be set free, and with the sanction of the Secretary of State it is proposed then to devote a large portion of this surplus to certain public works, which, though urgently required, are not of that directly remunerative character which would justify their being constructed out of borrowed money.

5. The following is a comparative statement showing the actual revenue collected in 1906 and 1907:—

	Revenue of 1906.	Revenue of 1907.	Nett Increase.	Nett Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Customs	8,358,542 10	9,189,922 57	831,380 47	—
2. Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Light- house Dues.	2,088,793 30	2,135,632 39	46,839 9	—
3. Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.	7,602,012 06	7,959,763 73	357,750 77	—
4. Fees of Court or Office, Payment for Specific Services, and Reimburse- ments in aid.	1,421,061 69	1,543,287 83	122,226 14	—
5. Post and Telegraphs	1,237,790 91	1,341,193 92	103,403 1	—
6. Government Railway	10,092,928 31	10,741,008 19	648,079 88	—
7. Rent of Government Property ..	—	—	—	—
8. Interest	580,737 87	731,501 30	150,763 43	—
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	440,019 35	531,012 83	90,993 23	—
10. Sale of Government Property ..	—	—	—	—
11. Land Revenue (exclusive of Land Sales)	594,288 48	486,431 6	—	107,857 42
12. Land Sales.. .. .	2,616,485 05	1,914,071 27	—	702,414 68
Total	35,030,660 92	36,573,824 89	1,543,163 97	—

6. It will be noticed that there was a consistent advance under every head except Land Revenue and Land Sales. The revenue from the latter source was, however, Rs. 574,000 over the estimate, the demand for land in 1906 being exceptional.

Expenditure.

7. The ordinary expenditure of 1907 amounted to Rs. 32,591,522, or Rs. 1,782,767 less than the estimated expenditure and Rs. 52,693 less than the actual expenditure of 1906.

8. The savings on the estimate were chiefly under Military Expenditure (Rs. 970,000), due to the substitution of a native for a European regiment, and Public Works Extraordinary (Rs. 600,000). The staff of the Public Works Department has not been increased for many years, and its present spending power is evidently not capable of much further expansion without special and temporary arrangements.

9. The following is a comparative statement of expenditure for 1906 and 1907:—

Heads of Service.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
1. Public Debt	3,648,732 25	3,651,063 5	2,530 80	—
2. Military Expenditure	2,368,478 40	1,601,310 41	—	1,267,167 98
3. Pensions	1,412,571 91	1,492,652 47	80,080 56	—
4. Ecclesiastical	9,309 66	8,309 71	—	999 95
5. Exchange	143,267 58	81,628 74	—	61,638 84
6. His Excellency the Governor	134,217 9	179,772 46	45,555 37	—
7. Civil Service	800,655 79	813,986 8	13,330 29	—
8. Secretariat	347,521 34	324,018 95	—	23,502 39
8a. Controller of Revenue	—	5,781 45	5,781 45	—
9. Audit Office	62,655 63	69,082 91	6,427 28	—
10. Treasury	78,084 55	84,077 49	5,992 94	—
11. Provincial Administration	1,021,052 64	1,015,782 86	—	5,269 78
12. Settlement Officer under Waste Lands Ordinance	104,837 8	96,887 2	—	7,950 6
13. Survey Department	825,201 52	902,376 69	77,175 14	—
14. Government Stores	90,425 42	71,717 26	—	18,708 16
15. Immigration	52,587 5	79,494 84	26,557 79	—
16. Quarantine	38,578 11	31,941 74	—	6,736 37
17. Customs	180,147 20	153,592 45	—	6,554 75
18. Post Office and Telegraphs	1,455,184 54	1,521,502 39	66,338 35	—
19. Forest Department	276,524 15	280,689 81	4,165 16	—
20. Railway Department	5,102,378 37	5,374,562 23	272,183 86	—
21. Port and Marine, Colombo	398,874 8	479,501 48	80,627 40	—
22. Port and Marine other than Colombo	43,246 2	38,587 62	—	4,658 40
23. Legal Departments—				
Supreme Court	164,508 52	180,702 96	16,194 44	—
Attorney-General	74,649 86	80,598 77	5,948 91	—
Solicitor-General	13,824 63	13,639 13	—	285 50
District Courts	180,906 36	179,629 12	—	1,277 24
Courts of Requests and Police Courts	138,183 11	139,832 27	1,649 16	—
Registration of Lands	108,956 87	113,576 61	4,619 64	—
Registration of Marriages, Births, and Deaths	135,591 75	128,134 1	—	7,457 74
Fiscals	261,417 53	285,150 44	23,732 91	—
24. Police Department	993,046 14	1,066,758 57	73,712 43	—
25. Prisons Department	540,500 8	590,272 54	49,772 46	—
26. Medical Department	2,018,468 10	2,188,889 43	180,421 33	—
27. Education	1,071,309 5	1,297,259 23	225,950 18	—
28. Botanic Gardens	131,513 2	128,068 11	—	3,444 91
29. Colombo Museum	38,187 70	38,574 92	2,387 22	—
30. Archeological Commissioner	64,579 48	70,027 20	5,447 72	—
31. Veterinary Department	18,012 73	20,209 57	2,286 84	—
32. Board of Agriculture	30,743 83	30,531 25	—	212 58
33. Mineralogical Survey	24,389 10	20,277 68	—	4,111 42
33a. Marine Biological Department	5,061 82	—	—	5,061 82
34. Inspector of Mines	10,385 7	11,733 85	1,338 78	—
35. Inspector of Factories	4,000 0	4,000 0	—	—
36. Miscellaneous Services	777,450 39	829,028 6	—	148,422 33
37. Public Works Department	563,882 96	600,563 12	36,680 16	—
38. Irrigation Department	277,983 52	304,783 3	26,799 51	—
39. Consulting Electrical Engineer	14,190 37	6,968 13	—	5,222 23
40. Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,325,602 27	2,396,945 69	71,343 42	—
41. Irrigation Annually Recurrent	164,268 57	181,763 56	17,494 99	—
42. Public Works Extraordinary	1,913,542 62	2,008,381 0	94,838 38	—
43. Irrigation Extraordinary	196,171 67	155,209 10	—	40,962 77
44. Railway Department New Construction	964,034 52	1,357,634 45	393,599 93	—
Increase of Salaries	353,782 68	—	—	353,782 66
Total Expenditure chargeable to General Revenue	32,644,214 88	32,591,521 79	1,920,764 80	1,973,457 89
45. Public Works Extraordinary charged to Revenue, pending raising of Loan—				
Duplication of Water Main	1,503 3	—	—	1,503 3
Harbour Construction	944,763 34	1,580,627 23	635,863 89	—
Railway Construction	138,329 91	137,073 44	—	1,256 47
Irrigation Construction	196,171 86	155,209 11	—	40,962 75
Station Extensions	569,570 98	737,257 92	167,686 94	—
Passara Railway Survey	—	47,762 80	47,762 80	—
Ratnapura Railway Survey	—	2,852 27	2,852 27	—
Mannar Railway Survey	—	407 13	407 13	—
Grand Total	34,494,554 0	35,252,711 69	2,775,337 83	2,017,180 14
		Deduct Decrease ..	2,017,180 14	
		Nett Increase ..	758,157 69	

10. Perhaps the most significant feature in the above statement is the large increase of over 20 per cent. in the expenditure on education. The decrease under Military Expenditure has already been explained. The increase of expenditure on Railway New Construction is due to the fact that the Negombo railway, which was sanctioned at the end of 1906, is being built out of revenue.

(B.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

11.—(i.) The assets of the Colony on December 31st, 1907, were Rs. 22,928,172, and the liabilities Rs. 16,079,870, the assets thus exceeding the liabilities by Rs. 6,848,302. Further, a sum of Rs. 9,121,926 had been advanced from surplus balances for Harbour, Railway, and Irrigation expenditure, which will ultimately be charged to loan.

(ii.) Of the assets, a sum of—

Rs. 10,588,054 was in cash in the hands of the Treasurer, Government Agents, and the Crown Agents;
Rs. 5,209,160 in investments;
Rs. 3,015,036 advanced for the Colombo Drainage Works;
Rs. 1,835,975 in stores;
Rs. 842,459 in loans to Local Bodies; and
Rs. 578,291 in miscellaneous advances.

(iii.) The chief liabilities were:—

	Rs.
Currency Reserve	7,710,245
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund ...	4,930,361
Deposits	2,935,215

(C.) PUBLIC DEBT.

12. On December 31st, 1907, the public debt of Ceylon stood as follows:—

	£
Nett Sterling Debt	4,012,087
Nett Silver Debt (Rs. 2,735,214) ...	182,347
Total Indebtedness ...	£4,194,434

13. The following table exhibits in sterling the revenue and nett amount of debt during each of the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue. £	Nett Amount of Debt. £
1903	1,961,554	4,553,169
1904	2,056,446	4,476,480
1905	2,293,022	4,386,039
1906	2,335,377	4,304,396
1907	2,438,255	4,194,434

14. It is estimated that about £2,000,000 is required to defray the cost of completing the programme of Public Works already sanctioned. Of this, some £800,000 has been provisionally advanced out of surplus revenue, including £200,000 for the Colombo Drainage Scheme, which sum will be regarded as a loan to the Municipality.

15. Provision is made for the repayment of all loans by means of a sinking fund, except in the case of the loan from the Public Works Commissioners under Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, which is repayable by an annuity. This debt will be extinguished in 1911.

16. The capital expenditure of the Colony has, with the exception of comparatively small sums spent on Irrigation Works, and the duplication of the Colombo water main, all been made on two great services, Railways and Colombo Harbour Works. The former yield very nearly 6 per cent. interest on the capital invested, while the Harbour has hitherto met all charges, including interest and sinking fund.

(D.) CURRENCY AND BANKING.

17. The currency of Ceylon consists of:—

- (1) Copper: Ceylon 5-cent, 1-cent, $\frac{1}{2}$ -cent, and $\frac{1}{4}$ -cent pieces.
- (2) Silver: the India rupee, with subsidiary Ceylon 50-cent, 25-cent, and 10-cent pieces.
- (3) Gold: British sovereigns, which are legal tender at Rs. 15 per £.
- (4) Ceylon Government notes of Rs. 1,000, 100, 50, 10, and 5.

On December 31st, 1907, the value of currency notes in circulation was Rs. 16,944,675.

18. The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation; the Bank of Madras; the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited; and the National Bank of India, Limited, do business in the Colony.

(E.) GENERAL.

19. Early in the year the Audit Department was separated from that of the Controller of Revenue, a specially trained Colonial Auditor being appointed. The Audit Office was thus relieved of responsibilities and duties that had previously tended to retard its more legitimate functions, while the Controller of Revenue is able to devote himself to the supervision of all questions affecting the revenue, especially Land, Arrack, Salt, Opium, and Tolls.

(F.) MUNICIPALITIES.

20. The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure of the Municipalities for the five years ended December 31st, 1907:—

Name of Municipality.	Revenue or Expenditure.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
		Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.	Rs. c.
Colombo ..	{ Revenue ..	1,337,344 8	1,567,907 46	1,591,742 10	1,763,106 35	2,332,259 12*
	{ Expenditure	1,494,429 40	1,656,127 70	1,387,277 98	2,523,754 99	2,217,100 86
Kandy ..	{ Revenue ..	199,303 84	192,150 47	188,553 17	220,691 47	224,196 41
	{ Expenditure	196,217 71	179,583 10	207,938 78	203,242 40	192,736 5
Galle ..	{ Revenue ..	92,886 64	95,911 93	104,899 23	113,035 46	129,637 81
	{ Expenditure	88,115 81	86,563 57	101,473 50	108,918 0	116,578 59

* The revenue of the Colombo Municipality for 1907 includes a sum of Rs. 600,000 advanced by Government on account of Drainage Works.

21. Below will be found a statement of the debts of the Municipalities up to the end of 1907, showing provision for payment:—

Name of Municipality.	Amount of Debt.	On what account.	Provision for Payment.
Colombo	Rs. Nil	—	—
	152,523 87	Waterworks construction ...	Water-rate of 6 per cent. on properties within certain portions of the Municipality (Ordinances Nos. 18 and 29 of 1884).
Kandy	105,402 98	Acquisition of lands above reservoir ; repairs to main sewer and other various works.	Bond assigning portion of water-rate, as authorized by Ordinance No. 7 of 1887 ; also portion of rates and taxes.
	18,000 0	To widen Victoria Drive and clear lake silt.	Bond assigning portion of rates and taxes under sections 127 (a) and (b), 128, 129 and 130 of Ordinance No. 7 of 1887.
	53,147 81	Construction of waterworks ...	A water-rate of 5 per cent. is levied within the Fort for repayment of loan.
Galle	37,840 82	Sanitary improvements ...	Mortgage of stamp duties on licences for carts, boats, and coaches ; and also stamp duties under Licensing Ordinances of 1893 and 1897.
Total	366,915 48		

22. As regards the Municipality of Colombo, a sum of Rs. 3,015,036 has been advanced by the Government towards the cost of the Mansergh Drainage and Sewerage Scheme. The construction of the Colombo Waterworks and the Victoria Bridge was carried out by Government, and the Municipality has undertaken to repay Government an annual sum of Rs. 100,000 until 1924 in respect of the former, and of Rs. 8,000 until 1945 for the latter.

(G.) LOCAL BOARDS.

23. The town of Bandarawela having been brought under the provisions of the Local Boards' Ordinance, there are now twenty Local Boards in Ceylon. The Boards are entrusted with the maintenance of public health and the general improvement and conservancy of the towns in which they are established. Their sources of revenue are an assessment tax on real property, taxes on vehicles and animals, road commutation tax, stamp duties for various licences, and fines for breaches of by-laws, &c.

24. In 1907 the total revenue of these Boards amounted to Rs. 361,054 as against Rs. 330,993 in 1906, and the total expenditure to Rs. 370,942 as against Rs. 297,726 in 1906. Loans are made to Local Boards usually at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. interest and 2 per cent. sinking fund for approved purposes, such as water-works, drainage, erection of markets, &c., on the security of their revenue. Loans outstanding on December 31st, 1907, amounted to Rs. 406,079.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

25. The year 1907 was one of unprecedented prosperity for Ceylon trade, as will be seen from the following table:—

Aggregate value of imports and exports for the last five years (omitting specie, but including coal exported for use of steamers).

Year.	Lacs of Rupees.
1903	2,144
1904	2,198
1905	2,240
1906	2,363
1907	2,631

26. The Customs revenue strikingly benefited by the prevalent activity in trade, and nearly reached a hundred lacs of rupees:—

Gross Customs Revenue for the five years ended 1907.

Year.	Rs.	Increase over previous year.
1903	8,043,000	413,000
1904	8,334,000	291,000
1905	8,653,000	319,000
1906	8,875,000	222,000
1907	9,678,000	803,000

27. The chief articles contributing to the revenue in 1907 were:—

	Rs.
Grain	3,474,072
Spirits	1,261,000
Kerosine oil	911,122
Sugar	870,336
Cotton goods	342,313

28. The following table shows the distribution of exports and imports (omitting specie, and coal exported for use of steamers):—

Distribution of Imports and Exports.

Total Imports, Rs. 120,150,000.

	Per Cent.
From United Kingdom	27·2
From British Possessions... ..	60·6
From Foreign Countries	12·2

Total Exports, Rs. 129,350,000.

	Per Cent.
To United Kingdom	51·0
To British Possessions	17·2
To Foreign Countries	31·8

29. In the Report on the Blue Book for 1903 the writer drew attention to the vast strides made in the foreign trade of the Colony in the preceding decade. As regards imports, it was remarked that "Although the imports from foreign countries are still a comparatively small proportion only of the total imports, their relative importance is no longer negligible, and if their present rate of increase continues another ten years will place them in front of the imports from the mother country," while the exports to foreign countries were observed to be rapidly approaching the exports to the United Kingdom. It is of some interest therefore to find that during the last four years the British and Colonial trade has not lost any further ground, but has practically maintained its position, as the following comparison of percentages shows:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1907.	1903.	1907. *
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
From United Kingdom ...	25·22	27·2	53·42	51·0
From British Possessions ...	63·34	60·6	15·46	17·2
From Foreign Countries ...	11·44	12·2	31·12	31·8

30. The following table exhibits the values of the principal imports for the last two years:—

Principal Imports.

	1906.				1907.			
	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
1.—LIVE ANIMALS.								
Cattle ...	Rs. 600	Rs. 439,300	Rs. —	Rs. 439,900	Rs. 2,100	Rs. 402,500	Rs. —	Rs. 404,600
Horses ...	3,600	90,800	—	94,400	4,500	150,000	—	154,500
Sheep ...	—	321,700	—	321,700	—	184,000	—	184,000
Goats ...	—	218,000	—	218,000	—	311,800	—	311,800
2.—ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRINK.								
Bacon ...	71,200	1,800	600	73,600	77,500	500	200	78,200
Beer { Bottled	82,100	—	125,000	284,400	92,900	—	113,300	263,500
Beer { Cask ...	76,700	—	600	77,300	57,200	—	100	57,300
Brandy ...	24,800	1,100	312,200	338,100	14,400	1,100	343,800	359,300
Biscuits ...	258,600	9,700	66,200	334,500	247,900	18,500	62,200	328,600
Butter ...	3,800	182,900	9,300	196,000	4,600	213,400	7,000	225,000
Coffee (unmixed)	200	815,300	—	815,500	200	846,300	3,600	850,100
Confectionery...	175,200	14,100	4,200	193,500	202,100	12,200	3,500	217,800
Flour ...	400	1,414,100	1,400	1,415,900	—	1,500,300	400	1,500,700
Gin ...	39,400	—	181,500	220,900	37,900	—	258,800	296,700
Gram ...	—	715,600	13,100	728,700	—	817,600	16,100	832,700
Onions...	300	542,400	3,000	545,700	—	641,200	1,100	642,300
Paddy ...	—	2,544,100	500	2,544,600	—	2,244,000	2,700	2,246,700
Potatoes ...	4,700	144,200	270,000	418,900	3,400	214,200	286,700	504,300
Rice ...	100	38,443,500	605,500	39,049,100	—	39,523,400	1,401,600	40,925,000
Sugar (refined)	97,900	1,474,100	1,216,300	2,788,300	201,200	1,078,200	1,635,400	2,914,800
Whisky ...	490,000	3	1,600	491,600	532,600	1,000	100	533,700

Principal Imports—continued.

	1906.				1907.			
	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3.—NARCOTICS.								
Cigars ...	337,800	13,800	56,500	408,100	315,700	13,900	64,700	394,300
Tobacco (unmanufactured)...	—	26,100	2,000	28,100	100	17,900	6,400	24,400
Opium ...	27	18,512	346	18,885	33	21,924	327	22,284
4.—RAW MATERIALS.								
Coal ...	7,051,000	4,747,000	121,000	11,919,000	6,444,400	3,862,100	243,400	10,549,900
Iron (all kinds) ...	79,500	22,600	87,100	189,200	109,100	4,200	140,200	253,500
Manure (bone and fish) ...	1,200	693,400	16,200	710,800	—	996,300	16,400	1,012,700
Lead (pig) ...	71,000	476,000	61,300	609,000	50,700	510,100	—	560,800
Steel ...	115,200	300	97,300	212,800	226,100	1,000	104,500	331,600
Teak ...	—	222,700	362,800	585,500	—	86,200	507,700	593,900
Tin (plates and slabs) ...	124,400	59,300	10,100	193,800	111,100	97,500	—	208,600
5.—MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.								
<i>(a) Textile.</i>								
Apparel (made up) ...	254,800	28,400	150,300	443,500	297,500	42,800	137,700	478,000
Cotton piece goods :—								
(1) Bleached ...	1,626,700	119,500	15,200	1,761,400	2,163,900	115,800	16,600	2,296,300
(2) Dyed ...	593,600	1,352,700	532,200	2,478,500	586,800	1,498,200	682,800	2,767,800
(3) Gray ...	1,081,300	36,300	168,100	1,285,700	704,300	17,800	88,200	810,300
(4) Muslin ...	98,700	4,000	100	42,800	41,800	5,600	1,000	48,400
(5) Printed ...	930,600	18,400	28,300	977,300	1,141,200	36,600	11,600	1,189,400
(6) Other ...	553,800	108,400	103,100	765,300	460,500	111,700	127,600	699,800

Flannel	...	61,700	6,300	23,600	91,600	61,700	1,500	39,600	102,800
Mixed materials, piece goods	...	170,000	207,000	109,000	486,000	235,900	220,000	117,400	573,300
Silk and satin broad-stuffs	...	80,600	58,400	145,300	284,300	74,400	56,000	142,000	272,400
<i>(b) Metal.</i>									
Galvanized iron	...	678,100	600	91,000	769,700	991,700	200	174,800	1,166,700
Hardware	...	916,800	19,000	154,200	1,090,000	1,089,600	20,400	162,900	1,472,900
Hoop iron	...	81,100	18,900	130,000	230,000	189,300	13,100	198,100	400,500
Nails and rivets	...	32,800	300	105,500	138,600	30,100	1,800	103,900	135,800
Tea lead	...	555,900	—	1,800	557,700	348,000	—	3,200	351,200
<i>(c) Other.</i>									
Casks and shooks	...	93,800	241,500	232,200	567,500	80,600	141,500	81,900	304,000
Cement	...	159,900	—	69,900	229,800	205,700	—	103,900	309,600
Chemists' sundries	...	315,700	22,400	55,200	393,300	319,900	18,600	85,900	424,400
China ware	...	188,300	700	112,100	301,100	209,000	3,300	112,600	324,900
Fancy articles...	...	238,300	42,100	118,100	398,500	243,600	35,400	106,100	385,100
Haberdashery (including jewellery)	...	977,300	935,800	216,700	2,129,800	974,200	913,600	198,200	2,086,000
Kerosine oil	...	—	2,100	1,452,500	1,454,600	—	1,400	1,424,600	1,426,000
Machinery (all kinds)	...	920,600	14,200	129,300	1,064,100	1,018,400	9,400	115,200	1,143,000
Manures (all kinds)	...	173,900	1,185,000	668,300	2,027,200	253,800	1,479,000	911,700	2,644,500
Matches	...	1,200	500	207,200	208,900	7,800	2,800	167,500	178,100
Milk (preserved)	...	30,800	900	302,700	334,400	35,000	2,000	334,000	371,000
Ponac...	...	—	1,361,200	24,800	1,386,000	—	1,471,600	21,600	1,493,200
Soap	...	242,700	139,400	41,600	423,700	184,500	177,800	21,600	383,900
Tea chests	...	782,000	31,200	1,110,000	1,923,200	872,200	33,400	891,500	1,797,100
<i>6.—SPECIE.</i>									
Gold (coin)	...	222,000	3,277,500	—	3,499,500	15,000	4,650,000	300	4,665,300
Silver (coin)	...	—	7,213,900	200	7,214,100	—	4,484,200	200	4,484,400

31. An analysis of the above table shows that the chief changes are as follows:—

Live Animals.—Less sheep and correspondingly more goats were imported.

Food and Drink.—Less beer, more brandy and whisky, much more gin were imported. Imports of rice from non-British India have increased from $\frac{1}{2}$ to nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ million rupees; imports of rice from British India meanwhile have increased from $38\frac{1}{2}$ to $39\frac{1}{2}$ millions.

Raw Materials.—(a) Imports of Japanese coal are double in amount at expense of British coal; (b) imports of iron rise from Rs. 189,000 to Rs. 253,000—this is chiefly due to a very large increase in the import of bar iron from Belgium (Rs. 43,000 to Rs. 111,000); (c) in pig lead Spain and Germany account for Rs. 61,000 to 1906, but in 1907 this disappears entirely; (d) in steel the United Kingdom output is doubled, while Belgium advances at the expense of Germany; (e) the teak import shows growth of Siamese produce—Burma decreases from Rs. 183,000 to Rs. 80,000, and Siam grows from Rs. 363,000 to Rs. 504,000.

Manufactured Articles.—(a) Imports of galvanized iron show a large increase. This is due to an import of Rs. 381,000 worth of galvanized barbed wire (not found in 1906 statistics), of which the United Kingdom supplies Rs. 236,000, Belgium Rs. 41,000, Germany Rs. 75,000, and United States of America Rs. 29,000. In ordinary galvanized iron, Germany falls from Rs. 65,000 to Rs. 19,000. (b) The import of hoop iron also shows a large increase—practically doubled. The increase is distributed as follows:—United Kingdom Rs. 81,000 to Rs. 189,000, Germany Rs. 77,000 to Rs. 137,000, and Belgium Rs. 16,000 to Rs. 41,000. (c) Imports of casks and shooks—both from British India and Austria—show large decreases. (d) Imports of manures from United Kingdom, British India, and Germany have risen largely in quantity.

32. The above table may also be analysed as follows to show the articles which are imported to a larger extent from foreign countries than from the United Kingdom or the Colonies:—

Articles in respect of which the United Kingdom or the Colonies head the Imports into Ceylon.		Articles in respect of which Foreign Countries head the Imports into Ceylon.
Live animals	Apparel (made up)	Bottled beer
Bacon	*Cotton piece goods	Brandy
Cask beer	Flannel	Gin
*Biscuits	*Mixed materials, piece goods	Potatoes
Butter	*Galvanized iron	Sugar
Coffee	*Hardware	Teak
Confectionery	Tea lead	Silks and satins
Flour	*Casks and shooks	Hoop iron
Gram	*Cement	
Onions		

Articles in respect of which the United Kingdom or the Colonies head the Imports into Ceylon.		Articles in respect of which Foreign Countries head the Imports into Ceylon.
Paddy	*Fancy articles	Nails and rivets
Rice	*Haberdashery	Kerosine oil.
Whisky	*Machinery	Matches
Cigars	*Manures	Milk (preserved)
Opium	Poonac	Tea chests
Coal	Soap	
Manures (bone and fish)		
Lead		
Steel		
Tin		

It will be noticed that the United Kingdom or the Colonies still hold the field in the large majority of important articles. In those marked* however there is considerable foreign competition.

33. The following table shows the changes in the relative positions of the various countries which export goods to Ceylon:—

Ceylon's Chief Sources of Supply, Value of Imports (excluding Specie).

Country.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports to Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. British India ...	60,495,700	1	59,687,700	1	60,468,700	1
2. United Kingdom ...	25,170,700	2	29,569,700	2	32,626,000	2
3. Burma ...	4,223,400	3	4,057,600	3	4,045,800	3
4. Germany...	2,692,900	4	2,814,800	4	2,921,100	4
5. Straits Settlements	414,500	19	1,887,700	5	2,904,100	5
6. Maldiv Islands ...	2,042,200	5	1,843,300	6	2,267,000	6
7. India(non-British)	1,511,900	8	753,600	12	1,735,000	7
8. Japan ...	1,623,900	6	1,557,000	7	1,507,000	8
9. Austria ...	794,600	11	1,141,100	10	1,297,500	9
10. Borneo ...	145,600	25	660,600	14	1,267,500	10
11. Hong Kong ...	1,555,200	7	1,479,900	8	1,152,600	11
12. United States of America.	801,200	10	1,375,800	9	1,002,400	12
13. France ...	755,000	12	797,800	11	757,600	13
14. South Australia...	480,700	17	591,200	16	744,900	14
15. Victoria ...	530,900	15	667,400	13	740,100	15
16. Java ...	496,300	16	101,500	25	735,200	16
17. Holland ...	677,500	13	591,400	15	715,900	17
18. Belgium ...	544,600	14	425,300	17	694,700	18
19. Siam ...	172,800	24	390,800	19	627,200	19
20. Italy ...	322,900	20	335,200	20	451,200	20
21. Switzerland ...	431,800	18	422,800	18	428,300	21
22. New South Wales	278,500	21	254,900	22	329,700	22
23. Sweden ...	182,300	23	193,500	24	164,400	23
24. China ...	231,900	22	282,500	21	124,800	24
25. Russia ...	983,300	9	254,500	23	59,700	25
26. West Australia ...	88,400	26	85,700	26	41,100	26

The chief features are the advance of the Straits, Borneo, and Siam, and the decline of Hong Kong and Russia.
 34. In the next table will be found a comparison between exports of Ceylon produce and manufacture in 1906 and 1907 :—

		Principal Exports.				1907.			
		1906.							
		United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Areca nuts ...	...	1,800	1,937,800	89,200	2,028,800	5,300	2,322,900	86,800	2,415,000
Cacao ...	...	1,415,500	219,000	417,900	2,052,400	3,803,000	234,400	1,195,700	5,232,100
Cardamoms...	...	235,600	231,600	118,600	585,800	286,400	415,500	127,100	829,000
Cinnamon ...	...	310,700	40,400	2,291,000	2,642,100	407,200	66,400	2,572,100	3,045,700
Citronella oil ...	...	514,200	66,000	624,600	1,204,800	617,000	67,100	702,000	1,386,100
Coconuts :—									
(1) Desiccated ...	...	1,798,800	245,200	1,360,100	3,404,100	2,439,400	328,900	1,703,200	4,471,500
(2) Fresh ...	...	666,200	7,300	255,000	928,500	689,400	13,600	201,500	904,500
Coconut oil...	...	3,430,200	1,567,900	4,547,600	9,545,700	4,985,100	2,434,300	4,411,000	11,830,400
Coir fibre ...	...	274,200	116,600	535,500	926,300	400,700	198,400	652,400	1,251,500
Coir rope ...	...	1,200	202,200	5,000	208,400	4,200	208,200	6,300	218,700
Coir yarn ...	...	722,000	101,500	248,100	1,071,600	705,700	106,800	246,300	1,058,800
Copra ...	...	187,600	32,100	5,441,700	5,661,400	33,200	50,200	5,239,000	5,322,400
Plumbago ...	...	2,791,900	57,700	7,607,900	10,457,500	2,327,000	51,600	6,528,000	8,906,600
Poonac ...	...	—	400	1,064,100	1,064,500	—	2,100	882,900	885,000
Rubber ...	...	1,016,000	23,300	488,300	1,527,600	1,703,500	69,000	1,179,600	2,952,100
Tea ...	...	38,961,600	12,515,100	9,945,800	61,422,500	46,281,800	13,829,100	14,553,000	74,663,900
Tobacco (unmanufactured)	...	—	915,600	—	915,600	—	928,800	—	928,800

It will be seen that every product, except coir yarn, copra, plumbago, and poonac shows a most satisfactory advance.

35. Ceylon's largest customers are given below :—

Ceylon's Chief Customers (Value of Exports, excluding Specie).

Country.	1905.		1906.		1907.	
	Value of Exports from Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports from Ceylon.	Position.	Value of Exports from Ceylon.	Position.
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. United Kingdom	53,827,200	1	53,264,700	1	65,565,800	1
2. United States of America.	8,151,800	2	10,333,500	2	11,802,100	2
3. Russia ^o ...	4,415,500	5	5,780,100	5	9,022,000	3
4. Germany...	6,568,500	3	8,201,700	3	8,177,500	4
5. British India ...	5,071,700	4	6,013,000	4	5,763,900	5
6. New South Wales	3,465,700	6	3,233,000	6	4,255,000	6
7. Victoria ...	2,996,700	7	3,190,300	7	3,416,900	7
8. Belgium ...	1,995,700	10	2,708,900	9	3,233,400	8
9. China (excluding Hong Kong).	1,526,400	11	1,947,200	11	3,209,600	9
10. Canada ...	2,302,500	9	2,635,700	10	2,607,900	10
11. New Zealand ...	1,484,600	12	1,574,700	12	1,894,500	11
12. Austria ...	2,962,400	8	3,005,900	8	1,548,800	12
13. France ...	1,367,500	13	795,800	13	706,200	13
14. Holland ...	341,700	15	546,700	16	620,900	14
15. Denmark...	205,900	16	670,200	14	610,700	15
16. Straits Settlements	655,000	14	571,100	15	599,600	16
*Russia in Asia	522,300	...	1,745,000	...	2,079,100	...
Russia in Europe	3,893,000	...	4,035,200	...	6,942,900	...

Russia and Belgium have largely increased their imports from Ceylon; Austria and France, on the other hand, take much less than they did three years ago. The increased value of exports to the United Kingdom is attributed to the better price obtained for Ceylon tea (see paragraph 37).

Tea.

36. The following table shows the comparative distribution of Ceylon tea in 1906 and 1907 :—

Principal Markets for Ceylon Tea.

—				1906.	1907.
I.—UNITED KINGDOM ...				lb. 108,154,199	lb. 111,485,802
II.—British Possessions :—					
	British India	...	...	1,166,381	1,214,950
	Canada	...	...	7,234,582	6,161,602
	Hong Kong	...	...	745,527	294,885
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	1906.	1907.
II.— <i>British Possessions</i> —cont.	lb.	lb.
Natal	443,695	534,894
New South Wales]	8,824,980	9,618,560
New Zealand	4,071,051	4,313,696
Queensland	746,431	866,376
South Australia... ..	919,897	1,018,795
Victoria	8,055,420	7,187,238
West Australia	843,910	736,825
Total British Possessions...	34,751,281	33,290,854
III.— <i>Foreign Countries</i> :—		
Austria	319,579	201,060
China (excluding Hong Kong)	5,329,671	7,699,129
Egypt	228,782	217,151
France	553,695	461,845
Germany... ..	1,223,624	578,881
Russia	13,638,244	19,670,490
United States	5,640,931	5,528,297
Total Foreign Countries ...	27,621,666	35,068,171
Grand Total	170,527,146	179,844,827

The feature of the year was the greatly increased Russian demand.

37. The average price of Ceylon tea sold on the London market in 1907 was nearly 1*d.* per lb. higher than the corresponding price in 1906, viz., 8½*d.* against 7½*d.* Prices on the Colombo market were consistently above those of the previous year, the average for the whole year being 40·87 cents, against 34·82 cents for 1906. According to the annual report of the Ceylon Planters' Association, "The year closed with a very strong market, the statistical position showing that consumption is gradually overtaking production."

38. The total production of green tea for the year was approximately 6½ million lb., against 4½ million lb. for 1906. Russian shipment figures showed an increase of over 100 per cent. on the previous season, and the American figures show that Ceylon has more than maintained her footing in that market in the competition with the teas of Japan and China.

39. In accordance with directions from the Secretary of State, a Proclamation issued on January 24th, 1907, notifying the discontinuance after December 31st, 1908, of Ordinance No. 4 of 1894, which levied an export duty of 20 cents per 100 lb. of tea, "in order that the proceeds of such duty may be devoted to increasing the consumption of Ceylon tea in foreign lands."

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

(a) *Pearl Fishery.*

40. For the fifth year in succession a pearl fishery was held at Marichchukkaddi, and for the first time in the long history of the industry the fishery was managed by a company instead of by Government. The Ceylon Company of Pearl Fishers leased for twenty years from January 1st, 1906, "all that right or privilege which the Ceylon Government have heretofore exercised and enjoyed of fishing for and taking pearl oysters on the coasts of Ceylon between Talaimannar and Dutch Bay point," but the fishery of 1906 was managed by Government on the old lines on behalf of the company. In 1907 the company took over the complete management themselves. The administration of the camp in general, however, remained in the hands of Government on behalf of the company, which reimburses Government for the expenses incurred.

41. The company introduced several reforms in the conduct of the fishery, *e.g.*, (1) limitation of the number of boats and divers permitted to participate; (2) landing of the divers' catch of oysters in sealed bags instead of in bulk, and delivery to buyers in bags averaged to a common size, thereby dispensing with the necessity of counting individual oysters; and (3) the sealing and tallying in bags of the catch of each boat at the close of the day's fishing and before the boats started on their homeward journey. This plan proved most successful in securing the practical cessation of illicit opening of oysters.

42. The fishery lasted from February 20th to April 2nd, the total number of oysters lifted by the divers being 21,514,434, so that the company's "two-thirds" share was 14,342,955. By the terms of the lease Government receive a fixed annual rent of Rs. 310,000.

43. One of the conditions of the lease is that a sum of not less than Rs. 50,000—to be increased at the discretion of the Government to any sum not greater than Rs. 150,000—shall be annually expended by the company on the improvement of the fishery, and the first report of the company shows that more than Rs. 100,000 has been so spent.

(b) *Inland Fisheries.*

44. A Commissioner has been appointed to undertake a statistical and biological inquiry into the present state of the inland fisheries in the different Provinces from the point of view of food supply.

(c) *The Mineralogical Survey.*

45.—(i.) The following extracts from a report* published in September, 1907, by Professor Wyndham Dunstan, M.A.,

* Colonial Report (Miscellaneous), No. 42.

LLD., F.R.S., Director of the Imperial Institute, are of interest:—

“The Mineral Survey of Ceylon has now been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the recommendation of the Government of Ceylon for a further term of three years under the supervision of the Director of the Imperial Institute and in collaboration with the Scientific and Technical Department of the Institute. Mr. James Parsons, B.Sc., has been appointed Principal Mineral Surveyor, and Mr. J. A. Daniel, B.A. (Cantab.), Assistant Mineral Surveyor. The Surveyors, who are stationed in Ceylon, are instructed to conduct a thorough geological exploration of selected areas of the Island, with special reference to the occurrence of economic minerals, specimens of which are to be regularly forwarded to the Imperial Institute, where their precise composition and probable commercial value will be ascertained by examination in the Scientific and Technical Department, and, wherever necessary, by submission to manufacturers for technical trial. Notification has also been given in the Island by the Government of Ceylon that residents may forward to the Imperial Institute for report, through the Colonial Secretary at Colombo, specimens of any minerals found in the Island which are believed to be of economic importance.”

(ii.) “Attention has again been given to the examination of localities in which minerals containing thorium may occur, especially the beds of streams and rivers, and preliminary results of much importance have been obtained. The river gravels have in several instances proved to contain not only the valuable minerals thorianite, monazite, and thorite, but gold in addition. These river gravels have been concentrated by the officers of the survey by ‘panning’ in the usual way, and the results of the analysis of the concentrates forwarded for examination to the Imperial Institute.

“It will be seen that gold and thorium minerals are often present in considerable quantities. Attention may be particularly directed to a concentrate obtained from the Walawe-ganga (Morahela) river, which contained no less than 9.6 per cent. of gold and 45 per cent. of thorianite. If material of this quality can be readily concentrated on a large scale from the gravels of large areas of the river bed, the undertaking will no doubt prove to be highly profitable.”

(iii.) “The occurrence of gold in payable quantities in those localities in which thorianite also occurs enormously increases the profit obtainable from the exploitation of the latter mineral. The collection of thorianite in Ceylon has yielded already a handsome return since the value of this mineral was made known in 1904, though the subsequent fall in the price of thorium referred to in the previous report has led to a lessening of activity on the part of the collector, and a natural desire to hold rather than sell the material which has been collected in the expectation of a rise in its market value.”

(iv.) “Of scientific interest as well as commercial importance is the fact recorded in this and the previous report that the monazite of Ceylon is richer in thorium, and therefore correspondingly more valuable than the monazite obtained in other localities. It is now shown that one specimen from Pussadola, Dela, Sab., contains no less than 14 per cent. of this valuable rare earth.”

(v.) “Of great interest is the occurrence of platinum found for the first time in Ceylon near Karawita. This occurrence should be further investigated, and careful search made for this most valuable metal in other localities.”

46. Mr. Parsons reports that there was a considerable increase in the mining of mica during 1907, especially in the Kandy District, 426 cwt. being exported as against 99 cwt. in 1906.

(d) Mining.

47.—(i.) The output of plumbago showed a decrease during the year. Only 650,116 cwt. valued at Rs. 8,906,589 were exported, as against 701,845 cwt. in 1906 valued at Rs. 10,457,490. In the Western Province, where plumbago is extensively mined, there was a decrease of 40,000 cwt., as compared with the output of the previous year. The average value in 1907 was Rs. 13·70 a cwt., as against Rs. 14·90 a cwt. in 1906; good prices prevailed during the greater part of the year, but towards the end a marked depression set in and there was a serious fall in prices.

(ii.) The plumbago mines are chiefly in the Ratnapura and Kurunegala Districts and parts of the Western and Southern Provinces. The industry is a somewhat speculative one, success depending largely on the demand for plumbago by buyers in the European and American markets. It is carried on for the most part by native capitalists. A great improvement has been effected in the methods of working the mines or pits since the appointment of a Government Inspector of Mines.

48. Mica has been extensively worked in the Balangoda district of the Province of Sabaragamuwa. The mineral obtained there is reported to be of excellent quality. There are also two mines at work in the Nuwara Eliya District, the output of which during the year was 80 cwt. The total quantity of mica exported during the year was 426 cwt. valued at Rs. 14,955, or Rs. 35 per cwt. In 1906 only 99 cwt. were exported, but this smaller quantity was valued at Rs. 7,516, or Rs. 75·92 per cwt.

49. Moonstones are found in the Kandy District, where two large pits were worked during the year. Other precious stones, such as rubies, cat's-eyes, sapphires, &c., are gemmed in the Ratnapura District chiefly.

50. The quarrying of cabook or gneiss and granite has received a stimulus in recent years consequent on the demand for new houses in the principal towns, especially in Colombo and its suburbs.

(e) Salt.

51. The manufacture of salt is a Government monopoly, and is protected by the imposition of a duty of Rs. 2·13 per cwt. on imported salt. A sum of Rs. 1,737,871·86 was realized by its sale in 1907, or Rs. 1,775·93 in excess of 1906.

The year was a favourable one for its manufacture and collection. A total of 674,798 cwt. was collected for the whole Island, which is the second highest on record within the last thirty-four years, and is exceeded only by the harvest of 1905, which realized 713,822 cwt.

(f) Manufactures.

52. Ceylon is essentially an agricultural country, and its manufactures on any large scale are chiefly confined to the products of agriculture.

53. In the districts where the coconut palm is cultivated copra is manufactured, and is largely exported to the United Kingdom and elsewhere in Europe. The making of fibre, coir rope, and yarn, and coir matting from the husk of the coconut is also carried out on an extensive scale, the work being done for the most part by women. There are a few desiccating mills, where the kernel of the coconut is dried and specially prepared for export.

54. In the Northern Province, where tobacco thrives, cigars are manufactured, but this industry suffers from increasing competition with cigarettes. The Jaffna cigar seller nevertheless is still ubiquitous in the Island, and his cigars, which are small, strong, and extremely cheap, are a favourite smoke with the natives. The future of this industry largely depends on new markets being found for the cigars, but to effect this an improvement in the method of curing the tobacco is essential.

55. The manufacture of tiles and bricks is carried on in all parts of the Island where suitable clay is plentiful.

56. The weaving of a coarse kind of cloth in hand looms is carried on in the Eastern, Northern, and Central Provinces. It supplies purely local wants, and the cloth, though strong and of hard wearing quality, is inferior in texture and finish to imported material. It is, however, highly valued by the particular class of natives who use it.

57. In other districts the making of baskets, tortoise-shell boxes and combs, and common earthenware for water pans and cooking utensils is generally pursued to meet local wants. Excellent furniture is made in the Western Province, especially at Moratuwa.

58. Jewellery of very fine workmanship is made in the Northern Province to supply local wants. It is a species of filigree work, which is highly prized by the Tamil population of the Island.

59. The indigenous crafts peculiar to the Kandyan country, *i.e.*, silver and brass work, the making of jewellery, earthenware, and painted pottery, lacquer work, and ivory carving, continue to receive encouragement from the Kandyan Art Association. Specimens of the articles are kept in the Kandyan Art Museum, where they can be purchased.

60. Brass lamps, betel stands, plates, cooking utensils, and water pots are made in the North-Western and Eastern Provinces, and at Negombo in the Western Province.

61. In the Mannar District of the Northern Province the drying and salting of fish gives employment to a large number

of people. No less than 20,500 cwt. of this article, valued roughly at Rs. 197,700, were manufactured in 1907 for inland consumption. Fish curing is also pursued by the fishermen of Negombo, Hambantota, and Trincomalee.

(C.) AGRICULTURE.

(a) *The Agricultural Society.*

62.—(i.) The Ceylon Agricultural Society, founded in November, 1904, had at the end of 1907 a membership of 1,168 and 52 branches.

(ii.) The principle of co-operation has been adopted by more than one of the branch societies, seed and in some cases money being advanced by the local societies to their members at a low rate of interest. Important results are hoped for from the extension of this principle of co-operation and self-help.

(iii.) Agricultural Instructors are employed in making inspections and giving demonstrations in the villages. The utility of these officers has so far been demonstrated that the appointment of an additional Instructor is before the Board.

(iv.) Twelve successful Agri-Horticultural Shows were held during the year.

(v.) Cotton cultivation has been introduced into several Provinces, and attention has also been paid to tobacco and improved means of curing it.

(vi.) Other crops which have received special attention, particularly by the introduction of better varieties, are betel (*Piper betel*), yams (*Dioscoreæ*), shilli (*Capsicum*), orange, mango, sapodilla, durian, and all varieties of vegetables.

(vii.) The development of the fibre industry and the introduction of suitable machines continue to receive attention.

(viii.) The extermination of pestiferous plants, such as iluk and prickly pear, has been carried out in different places.

(ix.) In connection with paddy cultivation, an effort has been made to encourage transplanting, judicious manuring, and the employment of better seed as well as implements.

(x.) School gardens, which are doing excellent work, are being multiplied.

(xi.) Three additional experimental gardens were started during the year.

(xii.) The encouragement of sericulture has extended to the purchase of machinery for treating the cocoons of silkworms.

(xiii.) Bee-keeping makes steady progress.

(xiv.) The improvement of stock is being kept well in view with the help of the Veterinary Surgeon and his Stock Inspectors.

(b) Position of Agricultural Industries.

63. The state of the agricultural industries remains on the whole one of genuine prosperity.

Tea.—See page 19.

Coconut Products.—The following is from the annual report of the Planters' Association:—"The year has been quite the best on record, for though crops were generally short, yet the high price of copra in the early part of the year more than compensated owners for such shortage. On February 27th, 1907, the price rose to Rs. 86 per candy, which is the highest figure ever recorded for this article in the annals of Ceylon history. The total export of copra (347,970 cwt.) was about 76,000 cwt. short of the quantity sent out in 1906; the coconuts in the shell were less by $2\frac{1}{2}$ million nuts. Oil also shows a falling off in shipment by 50,000 cwt., 460,683 cwt. going out this year against 511,720 in 1906; whilst poonac, of course, shows a similar decline.

"This falling off in crop is generally considered to be due to the very dry season of 1906, which seriously affected in many districts the young nuts then setting for maturity in 1907. Germany, again this year, was our best customer for copra, and took almost half of the total export, and purchases by Belgium come next, and show a heavy increase over the business done in the previous year."

Cacao.—The export, owing partly to late cropping in 1906, increased from 55,621 cwt. to 93,851 cwt.

Cardamoms had a good year, 7,085 cwt. being exported at an average value of Rs. 117·01 per cwt., as against 6,505 cwt. at Rs. 90·05 per cwt. in 1906.

Coca, though only a small crop, continues to prosper. The Ceylon leaf brings higher prices than the South American, and is largely the standard of the market.

Citronella Oil.—The output increased slightly from 1,213,748 lb. to 1,298,752 lb., and the average value in 1907 rose from 99 cents to Rs. 1·07 per lb. Experiments with the distillation of oil from lemon grass and citronella are continuing at Peradeniya with a view to extending these industries.

Camphor.—The serious drop in price has materially curtailed the profits in this industry, but new areas are still being opened. The Planters' Association reports as follows:—

"The old destructive method of obtaining the camphor is now being abandoned as too improvident to repay the expenses of cultivation. There seems to be a general tendency to look towards the leaves and new twigs as to the future source of commercial camphor. It is found that the valuable product is distributed throughout the whole system of the tree, and a method of cultivation, depending upon the production of a large quantity of leaves and twigs, is probably the one which will be aimed at."

The cultivation of Rubber continued to extend, and there are probably 150,000 acres now under it, as against 120,000 at

the end of 1906 and 40,000 at the end of 1905. The value of rubber exported was Rs. 2,932,119, as against Rs. 1,527,539 in 1906, Rs. 557,945 in 1905, and Rs. 221,000 in 1904. The trees are, as a rule, remarkably healthy, and in suitable soil the growth is vigorous, giving every promise of success in the future.

During the last four months of the year a great drop in price occurred, and speculators were hardly hit. It has, however, fortunately checked the rapid expansion of the rubber area that was going on, and should prove a blessing in disguise to the industry.

The planting of cotton, often as a catch crop upon rubber estates, is slowly extending, and it is probable that this season there are several hundred acres under this crop.

Paddy.—Rice being the staple article of food, paddy cultivation is the main industry of the village agriculturists throughout the Island. The possibility of failure of the rains at the required season where the cultivator is dependent upon the natural rainfall renders its cultivation somewhat precarious. The completion of the larger irrigation works will render the cultivation of land under them practically independent of the ordinary fluctuations of weather, but in the present thinly populated state of most of the country irrigated from the large tanks, it is difficult to get the people to grow more than they require for food, *i.e.*, one crop in two or more seasons.

(D.) LAND SETTLEMENT.

64.—(i.) The Land Settlement Department, which is concerned with the settlement of title (as between the Crown and the individual) to the vast tracts of waste land in the Island, has continued its important work with the same success that has always attended its efforts. The Waste Lands Ordinance under which the settlements are effected has now been in operation for ten years, and the opposition which marked its introduction has practically disappeared. An abortive agitation against the land settlement policy of Government in the North-Western Province was made in the latter part of 1907, but it only served as an opportunity for a complete vindication of that policy in the Legislative Council and a reassurance of the liberal intentions of Government towards *bonâ fide* claimants. As a matter of fact the settlements proposed by the Settlement Officers are almost universally accepted as fair and equitable, and such opposition as there is can generally be traced to interested motives.

(ii.) The total operations under the Waste Lands Ordinance have so far covered 1,110,450 acres, but as there are between 12,000,000 and 13,000,000 acres of uncultivated land in the Island much remains to be done. The Department in 1907 consisted of five officers, and four have been added since; there is some difficulty in speedily recruiting suitable men possessing

the necessary intimate knowledge of the languages and customs of the people.

(iii.) The following notes by the Chief Settlement Officer are of interest:—

In the North-Central Province a large area of Crown land is available for cotton cultivation.

In Uva much land at an elevation of over 2,000 feet has been rendered available for future extensions of tea cultivation, and the settlement of large areas in the low-country suited for coconut and rubber is being proceeded with.

In Matara District many large blocks of land which could be turned into rubber and citronella estates are now available for sale.

The operations in the Trincomalee District of the Eastern Province in 1907 have established the Crown title to a large extent of valuable forest land.

(E.) LAND SALES.

65.—(i.) A total of Rs. 1,914,071 was realized by the sale of Crown lands in 1907, or Rs. 702,414 less than the amount obtained in 1906, the year of the "rubber boom."

(ii.) The highest average price of Crown land sold by public auction, viz., Rs. 62·75 per acre, was obtained in the Colombo District, 3,451 acres being sold at this rate, chiefly for rubber cultivation. In the Kandy District 230 acres were sold at an average price of Rs. 49 per acre, and in the Matale District 265 acres at an average price of Rs. 33·31 per acre. In the Kalutara District the average price was Rs. 58·94 per acre. In the Ratnapura District, which had in 1906 the highest average price of Rs. 102·85 per acre, 644 acres were sold by public auction at an average price of Rs. 53·12 per acre. In another good rubber district, Kegalla, 4,793 acres were sold at an average price of Rs. 50·73 per acre. In the Kurunegala District 2,524 acres of land suitable for coconuts, rubber, and cotton were sold at an average price of Rs. 46·92, and in the Chilaw District 1,331 acres for coconut cultivation at Rs. 55 per acre.

(F.) SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

66. The operations of the Survey Department during the year comprised 97,010 acres under the Block Survey and 45,595 acres under the Application Surveys, besides Topographical Surveys.

67. In the early part of the year the services of Mr. G. T. Hall of the Survey of India were secured to teach a few members of the staff the use of the plane table for topographical survey work. Mr. Hall spent three months in the Island, with the result that twelve men were well grounded in the work. These men have in their turn taught others, so that there is now a competent body of plane tablers in the Department. The result should be that the 4-mile-to-an-inch map should be finished at a much earlier period than would otherwise be the case.

68. At the instance of the Secretary of State Major E. H. Hills, R.E., C.M.G., head of the Topographical Section of the War Office, made a thorough inspection of survey work in Ceylon during May. Major Hills, who arrived in Ceylon on April 26th, carefully examined every branch of the Department in detail, and visited all the principal centres, travelling over the Island with the Surveyor-General, in order to obtain a personal knowledge of the varying conditions of climate and configuration of the country in which the surveyors are employed. In a valuable and practical report he emphasized the pressing necessity for the strengthening of the supervising staff of the Department, which has not been increased *pari passu* with the expansion of the lower grades. He also pointed out that "unless the staff of both Survey and Settlement Departments are very materially enlarged, the final settlement of all the inhabited and cultivated regions of the Island is little more than a vision of the distant future."

69. As a result of Major Hills' recommendations provision has been made in the Budget of 1908 for twelve more Assistant Superintendents and two new block survey parties, besides five additional temporary surveyors for topographical work and eight clerks and draughtsmen for the head office. It is proposed to enlist the services of some non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers for office work, lithography, secondary and minor triangulation, and the running of initial lines of levels, but Assistant Superintendents, who are to supervise parties, will as a rule be recruited from England from a class of men of good education with a general knowledge of surveying and engineering. Such men will before embarking for Ceylon be put through a short course lasting about a month at the Ordnance Survey, and their training will be completed locally. In the meantime, as already stated, the Land Settlement Department has been strengthened by the addition of four additional Settlement Officers.

(G.) SHIPPING.

70. The following table exhibits the number and tonnage of vessels entering the ports of Ceylon in 1906 and 1907:—

Nationality.	1906.		1907.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
All nations	3,894	6,697,329	3,836	6,657,323
British	1,829	4,625,821	1,719	4,467,307
British, Colonial ...	1,352	106,546	1,386	151,899
German	223	832,988	197	780,447
French	147	451,568	144	453,127
Japanese	54	191,169	112	377,238
Russian	53	136,263	43	113,955

71. According to the statistical abstract for the British Empire (1906), Colombo is the fifth largest port in the Empire:—

	Tons.
London	11,222,542
Hong Kong	11,050,070
Liverpool	8,145,441
Singapore	6,466,411
Colombo	6,281,164
Tyne Ports	5,548,111
Cardiff	5,295,331
Glasgow	1,842,416

Colombo Harbour Dues.

72. The total collection of harbour dues at Colombo during 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,304,265·16, an increase of Rs. 13,568·64 over 1906. A Commission sat in 1907 to consider the advisability of revising the scale of dues in view of the increased charges for interest and sinking fund that will have to be defrayed when the new loan is raised. The Commission made certain recommendations, but no changes have yet been approved.

III.—LEGISLATION.

73. Among the new Ordinances passed during 1907 were:—

No. 3 of 1907.—“An Ordinance relating to the Registration of Titles to Land and of Deeds affecting Land.” The enactment has not, however, been put in operation yet, the Land Settlement Officers being at present fully occupied in settling claims between the Crown and the people.

No. 6 of 1907.—“An Ordinance to provide for the Destruction of Plant Pests and for the Sanitation of Plants in the Colony.” Under this law Plant Pests Boards are established in the various districts, and have considerable powers for enforcing measures for dealing with proclaimed pests. The question of compensation gave rise to much discussion, and the Ordinance as passed contains a provision whereby the Governor in Executive Council can under certain conditions order compensation to be paid to owners or occupiers who are ordered to destroy plants.

No. 8 of 1907, entitled “An Ordinance to make provision in Rural and Planting Districts for the Education of Children in the Vernacular Languages,” is designed to introduce into the rural districts of the

Island a system of compulsory education in the vernacular languages, and to impose upon superintendents of estates the obligation of providing for the vernacular education of the children of the labourers. The superintendent is required to provide for the vernacular instruction of children between the ages of six and ten, and to set apart and keep in repair a suitable schoolroom. The Ordinance in fact provides for the extension of measures which in many cases are already taken voluntarily.

No. 17 of 1907 amends "The Joint Stock Companies' Ordinance" by allowing any Joint Stock Company in Ceylon the right to modify its memorandum of association so far as to enable it to divide its capital or any part of it into shares of smaller or larger amount than is fixed by the memorandum of association.

No. 19 of 1907 amended the marriage law of the Colony by reducing the minimum period of residence in the Colony before notice of marriage can be given from ten days to four days.

No. 22 of 1907 is a new general Loan Ordinance enacted at the instance of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. It provides the necessary machinery for the purpose of raising loans by short dated debentures convertible into inscribed stock at a lower rate of interest.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) PRELIMINARY.

74. It is not possible to draw the same clear line between elementary and secondary education in Ceylon as can be drawn in other countries. The matter is complicated by the fact that English is a foreign language to all but a small fraction of the population; the Europeans, Burghers, and Eurasians together form a little less than 1 per cent. of the population; the Sinhalese form 65 per cent. of the total; the Tamils and Tamil-speaking Moors 33 per cent. The result is that most of the schools in which English is taught are teaching a language which is foreign to the great majority of their pupils, and the distinction between elementary and secondary education is replaced by the distinction between vernacular and English schools. The vernacular schools really constitute the elementary education of the country.

(B.) VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

75. The following table shows the numerical progress for the last five years in the case of vernacular schools:—

Year.	Number of Government Schools.	Attendance.		Number of Aided Schools.	Attendance.	
		Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
1903 ...	497	44,631	10,878	1,249	77,619	37,707
1904 ...	507	46,785	11,678	1,316	77,700	39,103
1905 ...	529	52,375	12,829	1,386	85,436	44,144
1906 ...	566	54,249	13,827	1,429	90,389	44,599
1907 ...	592	55,624	14,372	1,456	88,707	48,518

76. From this it appears that there were in 1907 altogether 2,048 Government and grant-in-aid vernacular schools, attended by 144,331 boys and 62,890 girls. These figures show an increase of 53 schools and 4,157 children over the corresponding figures for 1906.

77. Besides the children attending Government and aided schools, 33,669 children were reported to be receiving instruction in 1,758 unaided schools, almost all of them vernacular; the figures furnished by such schools cannot, however, be relied upon, and the education is often of very little value.

78. The total spent by Government on vernacular education was Rs. 703,887·39, of which Rs. 298,495·69 was expended on Government schools and Rs. 405,391·70 on aided schools. This gives the cost to Government of education of a child in a Government school as Rs. 4·26 or 5s. 8d. per annum, and in an aided school as Rs. 2·95 or 3s. 11d. per annum.

79. The above figures show a somewhat lower rate of progress in 1907 than in the preceding years. They are drawn up on returns furnished on June 30th in each year, and the year which ended June 30th, 1907, was one in which the conditions were exceptional. There was an unusual amount of ill-health, which in many districts had a very prejudicial effect on the attendance at schools. The increase in the number of girls attending school is a good sign.

80. Up to the end of the year no Municipality or Local Board was brought under the Town Schools Ordinance of 1906. Preparations are, however, being made to start municipal schools tentatively in Colombo and Kandy.

81. An Ordinance to make provision in rural and planting districts for the education of children in the vernacular languages was passed in 1907, and will be brought into force in 1908. The funds provided under this Ordinance will be of

great service to the local authorities, which in some parts of the Island have been hampered by great difficulties in providing and maintaining the buildings for Government schools.

(C.) ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

82. In 1907 there were 248 English and Anglo-vernacular schools attended by 34,602 pupils, of whom 29,667 were boys and 4,935 were girls. As compared with 1906, these figures show an increase of 22 schools and 1,302 pupils. In the majority of these schools the work is confined to the schedules of the Educational Code, but there are many in which the upper classes are prepared for the Cambridge Examinations, Senior and Junior, and a few in which the work of the most advanced students reaches a higher level.

83. The following were the results of the Cambridge Local Examinations, for which 897 candidates presented themselves in 1907, viz., 335 for the Senior and 562 for the Junior:—

			Candidates.		Honours.		Passes.	
			Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Senior	...	...	301	34	13	1	133	19
Junior	...	...	461	101	21	7	266	50

84. The following were the results of the London Examinations held in 1907:—

			Candidates.	Passes.
Matriculation	...	...	36	15
Intermediate in Arts	...	...	11	7
Intermediate in Science	...	...	3	1

85. The only Government school in which higher education is given is the Royal College, at which in 1907 there were 324 pupils, with an average attendance of 299. The pupils in the upper part of the College are prepared for the Cambridge Local Examinations and the examinations of the London University as far as the Intermediate in Arts and Science. The staff consists of 19 masters, of whom five hold English University degrees. The gross cost to Government in 1907 was Rs. 50,863, of which a sum of Rs. 20,473 was recovered in school fees.

86. The other institutions in which anything that can fairly be described as higher education is given are, with two exceptions, registered as aided schools under the Code. The two

exceptions are (1) the Jaffna College, which was for some time affiliated as a first grade college to the University of Calcutta, but has now applied for registration as an aided school under the Department; and (2) the Church Missionary Society's Ladies' College in Colombo.

87. The encouragement offered by Government takes two forms: (a) Grants; (b) Scholarships:—

(a) In most of the aided English schools grants are paid on the results of examinations in the ordinary schedules of the Code, supplemented by specific subjects. But in some of the better schools the system has been replaced by one under which the greater part of the grant is paid on the average attendance. Liberal grants are also paid for every pupil who obtains honours in the Cambridge Local Examinations or who passes the London University Matriculation Examination or Intermediate Examination in Arts. The total sum expended in grants to English schools was Rs. 143,200 in 1907.

(b) Two University scholarships of £200 per annum for three years are now awarded on the results of the Intermediate Examinations of the University of London: one on the examination in Arts, the other on the examination in Science. One scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years is awarded annually to girls on the results of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. On the results of the Cambridge Junior Local Examination one scholarship of Rs. 240 per annum for three years and two of Rs. 120 per annum for two years are awarded annually to boys, and two scholarships of Rs. 120 per annum for three years are awarded annually to girls. The total sum expended in scholarships in 1907 was Rs. 13,971.

88. The Board of Education was engaged during the year in a revision of the schedules attached to the Code for Aided Schools, which has now been completed. The previous schedules were antiquated in form, and in many respects were felt to be an obstacle to intelligent teaching. The new schedules provide for Infant Departments, for instruction in English on lines corresponding to the direct method of teaching modern languages and for more practical methods of teaching arithmetic and geography.

(D.) TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

89. The Government Training College consists of three departments: English, Anglo-vernacular, and Vernacular. The English department is intended specially to meet the wants of aided English schools; 12 studentships of the annual value of Rs. 300 each are provided by Government. In the Anglo-vernacular and Vernacular departments students have hitherto been prepared only for work in Government schools; in 1907 there were four students in the Anglo-vernacular and 16 in the

Vernacular department. An English boys' school and an Anglo-vernacular boys' school are worked on the same premises, and serve as practising schools to the students; the staff in both these schools consists almost entirely of trained teachers. The Training College was started in 1903 in a somewhat tentative way; it has now been decided to extend its work. An enlargement of the building was begun in 1907, and will be completed during the present year; a female department for Sinhalese teachers will be added, and a Tamil department will be attached to the existing Sinhalese Vernacular department for male teachers. The numbers in the other departments will be increased. An important regulation has been added to the Code for Aided Schools, by which the second class certificate for English teachers will after the year 1909 be confined to teachers who have gone through a period of training.

(E.) TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION; SCHOOL GARDENS.

90. Higher technical education is provided for by the Technical College, a Government institution established in 1893. In 1897 it was re-organized, and its work largely extended. It is now the regular channel of admission of Ceylonese for the following Departments of Government: Public Works, Survey, Railway, Post and Telegraph; it contains departments of civil engineering, telegraphy, surveying, and levelling. In 1907 the number of students (including Drawing students) was 256 and the gross cost to Government was Rs. 61,664, of which Rs. 5,179 was recovered in fees and by the sale of stationery, instruments, &c. New buildings, including extensive laboratories, have been erected. A Commission has (1908) been appointed by the Governor to advise *inter alia* whether the different courses at the Technical College could not be so revised that it could be incorporated with or affiliated to the Royal College.

91. There are no Government industrial schools; but carpentry schools have been attached to five Government schools in the Kandyan Provinces. In 1907 the aided industrial schools, which are 38 in number, received grants amounting to Rs. 50,862. The number of pupils was 3,105, and the trades taught were as follows: dressmaking, carpentry, printing, bookbinding, shoemaking, tailoring, blacksmiths' work, lace-making, embroidery, gardening, and masonry.

92. The most important of these schools is the Maggona Certified Industrial School, which is utilized by Government as a reformatory, and carried on by the Roman Catholic Mission. This institution has an estate of about 300 acres and excellent buildings, to the cost of which Government has contributed. At the end of 1907 the number of juvenile offenders

receiving instruction in it was 178; the trades taught were carpentry, ironwork, masonry, gardening and estate work, book-binding, and tailoring. An allowance is paid by Government for the maintenance of each juvenile offender; this is not included in the amount specified above as the grants paid for industrial schools. The total cost of the institution to Government in 1907 was Rs. 16,864.

93. In Ceylon, where 88 per cent. of the population is rural, the technical and industrial education required for the main part of the population is one which will fit them for rural and agricultural life. An attempt is being made to supply this by the scheme for school gardens, which is being carried on in connection with Government schools. There are now 132 Government schools in which gardens are being carried on under the scheme. The seeds and implements are supplied by the Department, and the gardens are visited as often as possible by the Superintendent of School Gardens and his Assistants. The work is encouraged by money prizes for the most successful school in each district.

94. Needlework in girls' schools has received much attention since the appointment of the Inspectress of Needlework in 1904. The Inspectress visits personally as many schools as she can, and marks the work done at all girls' and mixed schools throughout the Island. This has led to a marked improvement both in plain needlework and in the lace and embroidery done in industrial schools.

(F.) ESTATE SCHOOLS.

95. As regards aided estate schools, the figures continue to show progress; at the end of 1907 there were 105 aided estate schools, as against 90 at the end of 1906 and 78 at the end of 1905. The number of estate schools actually examined for grant was 97, as compared with 81 in 1906.

96. As in the previous year, a form was circulated to collect information from planters. Returns were received from 784 estates, and showed a total number of 6,434 children receiving instruction in schools on the estates, of whom 5,490 were boys and 944 girls. These figures will, no doubt, be considerably increased when the new Ordinance is actually brought into force.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

97. See under Public Health.

(B.) MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS.

98. These comprise a Medical College (with a Council incorporated by Ordinance No. 3 of 1905) and a Bacteriological Institute.

99. Ordinance No. 2 of 1905, providing for the registration of medical practitioners in Ceylon, was brought into force on April 1st, 1906, and December 31st, 1907, was fixed as the final day for receiving applications from native doctors, &c., not ordinarily entitled to registration.

(C.) ASYLUMS.

100. There are asylums in Colombo for lunatics and lepers; there is also a Home for Incurables, which, though not an official institution, receives a grant of Rs. 5,000 per annum from Government.

(D.) POOR-HOUSES.

101. There are no poor-houses in Ceylon. In Colombo and some other towns there are Friend-in-Need Societies for the relief of distress, and these are subsidized by Government, the Colombo subsidy being Rs. 12,000 per annum. In addition to this every Government Agent and Assistant Government Agent has an annual vote for "Allowances to Paupers;" the votes vary from Rs. 10,000 in the Colombo District to Rs. 340 in the Nuwara Eliya District; the maximum allowance is Rs. 5 a month.

(E.) SAVINGS BANKS.

102. There are two Government institutions, and the business of both showed a satisfactory increase in 1907:—

(1) The Ceylon Savings Bank had a sum of Rs. 4,679,480 to the credit of 33,888 depositors on December 31st, 1907, as against Rs. 4,448,117 to the credit of 33,475 depositors on the corresponding date of 1906. The amount of the Bank's invested funds was Rs. 4,969,020. Interest is allowed on deposits at the rate of 3 per cent. in sums above Rs. 1,000, and 4 per cent. on sums below that amount.

(2) Post Office Savings Bank. — Depositors' accounts increased by 4,069, and amount to credit of depositors by Rs. 219,377, the figures at the end of the year being Rs. 2,117,199 to the credit of 71,018 depositors. In 1906 the increase of accounts was 3,099 and of deposits Rs. 149,695, so that the progress in 1907 was more marked. Business is done at 158 offices, and the rate of interest is 2.40 per cent.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) POLICE.

103. The authorized strength of the Police Force on December 31st, 1907, was 1 Inspector-General, 6 Superintendents of Police, 13 Assistant Superintendents of Police, 20

Inspectors, 23 Sergeant-Majors, 16 European Police Sergeants, 18 European Police Constables, 54 Station House Officers, 225 Native Sergeants, and 1,780 Native Constables. Seven members of the Civil Service are attached to the Force.

104. The cost of the Force was Rs. 1,091,745, as against Rs. 1,050,787 in 1906 and Rs. 823,227 in 1905. During the year 401 recruits were enlisted. On December 31st the force was short by 30 men, but is now (March, 1908) nearly up to strength.

105. The regular police established in the Southern, Western, and North-Western Provinces have continued to work steadily; they need experience, but promise well. The Government Agent of the Southern Province reports that there has been a marked diminution in crime since the establishment of regular police there.

(B.) CRIME STATISTICS.

I.—*From Returns furnished by the Inspector-General of Police.*

106. The following figures show the movement of crime for the past five years:—

Year.			True Cases.	Convictions or Committals.
1903	...	...	16,769	11,492
1904	...	...	19,027	13,063
1905	...	...	16,831	11,036
1906	...	...	17,621	11,224
1907	...	...	15,555	11,550

Of the 15,555 cases in 1907, 9,935 cases were statutory offences, breaches of Municipal by-laws, and other minor offences; only 5,620 cases can be classed as serious crime, as against 5,338 in 1906.

107. The following table shows the fluctuation of the more important forms of serious crime:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Murder and homicide ...	134	144	170	186	188
Rape	31	20	23	30	110
Robbery	234	280	330	382	926
Burglary	1,481	1,716	1,869	2,107	2,370
Grievous hurt	426	408	448	481	479
Theft of cattle and prædial products.	1,215	1,377	1,623	1,915	1,161
Arson	206	190	230	229	384
Riot	21	8	4	8	2

108. The marked decrease in cattle theft is noteworthy, and is probably due to the efforts of the new stations to break up gangs of cattle thieves. The increase in robbery is probably due to more correct registration, and the other increases are more or less normal.

109. In 83 murder cases the accused were convicted.

II.—*From Returns furnished by the Solicitor-General.*

110. The number of cases instituted in the Police Courts and Municipal Magistrates' Courts in 1907 was 82,453, as against 87,828 in 1906. The proportion of persons tried by Police Courts per 100,000 inhabitants was 1,600, as against 2,315 in 1906. The number of cases sent up for trial before the Superior Courts in 1907 was 1,708, viz., 353 before the Supreme Court and 1,355 before the District Courts. Of these, 219 ended in the conviction of one or more of the accused, and 114 in the acquittal of all the accused.

111. The cases before the Supreme Court included 147 in which the accused were charged with murder. Of these, one was withdrawn and three were pending at the end of the year. Of the remaining 143 cases, 110 resulted in the conviction of one or more of the accused (44 on the capital charge and 66 of lesser offences), and 33 in the acquittal of all the accused. Altogether 2,744 persons were committed for trial before the Superior Courts. Of these, 61 were awaiting trial at the end of the year. Of the remaining 2,683, 1,487 were convicted and 1,170 were acquitted, while 26 were discharged, the charges against them having been withdrawn.

(C.) PRISONS.

112. There was a decrease of 125 prisoners in the total number of admissions of convicted prisoners to the prisons in Ceylon during the year, excluding Road Ordinance defaulters, of whom there were 487 in 1907 as against 575 in 1906. The figures are as follows:—

1906	...	...	...	...	8,313
1907	...	...	...	...	8,188

113. Of the total admissions of convicted prisoners to prisons, the following were from the Superior Courts (Supreme and District Courts):—

1906	...	...	...	...	1,135
1907	...	...	...	...	1,296

There was therefore an increase of 161, as compared with 1906, in the number of persons convicted of more serious offences.

114. The convictions for murder and manslaughter were 126, as against 127 in 1906.

115. There was a large increase in the number of capital sentences carried out:—

					Sentenced to	
					Death.	Hanged.
1906	...	...	...	...	54	26
1907	...	...	...	...	59	44

Of the 59 sentenced to be hanged in 1907, 49 were Sinhalese, nine Tamils, and one Moor; 45 out of the 59 sentences were confirmed, 13 were commuted, and one was pardoned.

116. The total number of deaths in jail was 121, as against 118 in 1906. There was no serious epidemic of any kind. The average daily sick-rate for the year was 101, as against 134 in 1906—a very satisfactory decrease.

117. The number of punishments for prison offences inflicted on prisoners increased from 1,971 in 1906 to 2,308 in 1907. The number of individuals punished also increased from 1,771 in 1906 to 2,013 in 1907. Corporal punishments also increased from 109 in 1906 to 128 in 1907. The increases in the number of punishments, both corporal and “others,” is attributed to the substitution of husk-beating and stone-breaking tasked labours, which were very much disliked by the prisoners, in lieu of “pingo drill.”

118. The chief feature of the year was the successful efforts made to substitute productive for unproductive labour. In Welikada coir door rugs, matting, brooms, and brushes of all descriptions are made. Rattan furniture making has proved a success. Boot-making machines have been obtained from England, and the boot and shoe department now supplies all boots and shoes required by the officers for uniform and for the European and Burgher prisoners. The blacksmiths', tin-smiths', and carpenters' parties have been extended, and all articles required in the jails of the Island are made by prison labour. The Railway and Government Stores are also supplied with such articles as they may order. The tailors' department makes up the whole of the clothing required for officers' uniforms and for the prisoners. Repairs, alterations, and additions to jail buildings and officers' quarters in Colombo and other jails are performed by prison labour, the materials being supplied by the Public Works Department. At Negombo a basket industry has been started, and the Public Works Department, Railway, and Government Stores are supplied with jail-made goods made by convalescent prisoners who are unfit for hard labour. The estimated value of remunerative labour performed by prisoners was Rs. 323,266.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

119. The population enumerated at the Census (March 1st, 1901) was 3,565,954, exclusive of the military, the shipping, and the South African prisoners of war. The natural increase by excess of births over deaths from that date to the end of the year 1907 amounted to 234,058, while the number of Indian immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants by 188,052. The population estimated to the end of 1907 was accordingly 3,988,064, an increase, as compared with the population at the end of 1906, of 3,079 persons, and equal to a rate of '08 per cent. The increase is much less than usual, being one-eleventh of the increase in 1906 compared with 1905. This was due to the excess of departures over arrivals of immigrant coolies in 1907. In the last twenty years there has been only one other year in which the departures exceeded the arrivals.

Birth and Death Rates.

120. The births registered during the year numbered 130,403, and were in the proportion of 32·8 per 1,000 persons living. The registered deaths numbered 119,377, and were equal to a rate of 30·1 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with 1906, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 2·9 per mille, and the death-rate a decrease of 4·2 per mille. Compared with the average rates for the nine years 1898-1906, the birth-rate shows a decrease of 5·5 per mille, and the death-rate an increase of 1·9 per mille.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

121. The public health during 1907 showed a marked improvement on the previous year, which was one of the worst on record. There was an absence of widespread malaria, and the outbreaks of cholera and smallpox did not attain large proportions.

122. The greatest number of deaths occurred, as usual, under diseases of the gastro-intestinal canal; deaths under "Fevers" came next. There were 72 registered deaths from cholera and 24 from smallpox. There were 105 cases of cholera and 126 cases of smallpox in 1907, as against 756 and 287 respectively in 1906.

123. In the hospitals of the Island, of which there are 69, including asylums, there was a daily average sick of 4,175, as against 4,443 in the previous year. The number of parangi cases decreased in 1907. There were only two diseases which showed an increase in admissions during this year over 1906, viz., enteric fever and anchylostomiasis.

124. The following is a comparative statement of the number of admissions and deaths for the principal diseases in hospitals for 1906 and 1907:—

	1906.		1907.	
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
Anchylostomiasis	3,206	788	3,831	888
Chickenpox	2,677	1	2,441	2
Cholera	756	449	105	62
Dysentery	4,788	1,649	3,474	1,264
Enteric Fever	615	165	696	157
Leprosy	570	73	516	73
Malarial Fever	11,159	206	7,164	167
Parangi	3,958	41	3,513	45
Smallpox	287	69	126	24

125. Vaccination.—During the year 173,128 subjects were vaccinated. The percentage of successful primary vaccination cases to total inspected was 89·94, while the percentage of successful re-vaccination cases was 82·32.

126. Prevention of Malaria.—(i.) Owing to the excessive rainfall and the presence of large masses of water in the form of lagoons, canals, and paddy fields, Ceylon presents insurmountable difficulties in the way of a complete campaign against malaria. The weapons mainly used against the spread of this disease are the education of the people and the free distribution of quinine as a prophylactic.

(ii.) All school children are taught the rudiments of the prevention and cause of malaria, and they are given quinine regularly twice a week just before and during the rains. Free quinine is also distributed to the inhabitants by the headmen of remote villages, and by the officers of the Government hospitals and dispensaries where these are established.

(iii.) During the year many thousands of pamphlets dealing with the prevention of malaria have been distributed in various languages, and medical officers and apothecaries have given popular lectures on the same subject.

127. Plague.—Fortunately the Island continues free from the ravages of plague, and no case has been brought to the Island. Ceylon's freedom from plague may be attributed to the following circumstances: it is not a terminal port, ships do not come alongside a quay, and cargo lighters are regularly disinfected and kept free from rats.

(C.) SANITATION.

128. The sanitation of large towns is in the hands of municipalities, and in smaller towns in the hands of Boards of Health. The general expense of scavenging, &c., is met from

rates recovered locally, and loans are made occasionally to the local bodies for larger works of permanence, such as water supply, construction of drains, &c., the cost of which they are unable to meet in a lump sum. At present in the municipal towns the dry-earth closet system is in operation, the solid matter being collected nightly in carts for disposal at depôts outside the towns. (See also under head Public Works, (E) Colombo Drainage Works.)

(D.) METEOROLOGY.

129. The year 1907 was under the average as regards rainfall, but was distinguished by a number of cyclonic storms. In March a cyclone of considerable violence for Ceylon visited the east of the Island and caused extensive damage to coconut plantations, thousands of trees being destroyed. On October 1st a sudden storm, accompanied by heavy rain, resulted in a large landslip near Watawala, a portion of the railway line being carried away, the line being blocked for five days. On December 15th a cyclonic storm, accompanied by heavy rain, occurred between Dambulla and Anuradhapura. A number of tanks overflowed and had their bunds damaged, and a portion of the railway track in the North was carried away, the traffic being interrupted for some days.

130. The highest recorded rainfall was at Ratnapura, 138·36 inches, which was 12·10 inches below the average; the lowest at Hambantota, 33·64 inches, or 3·49 inches below the average. The rainfall in Colombo was 16·03 inches below the average, and at Kandy $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The hottest station, taking the mean temperature of night and day of all the year round into account, was Jaffna, 82·6°. The coolest was Nuwara Eliya, 59·1°. Colombo and Kandy were 80·1° and 75·8° respectively.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPH.

131. The total number of offices open in 1907 was 397; of these, 158 were Post Offices and 239 were Receiving Offices. Of the 158 Post Offices, 105 are also Telegraph Offices.

132. A comparison of the revenue and expenditure for the years 1906 and 1907 shows—

		1906.	1907.
		Rs.	Rs.
Revenue		1,249,046	1,353,202
Estimated value of work done for Government		250,560	246,507
Total		1,499,606	1,599,709
Expenditure		1,455,164	1,483,502
Balance		44,442	116,207

133. The total estimated number of articles, exclusive of parcels, which passed through the post during the year exceeded $30\frac{1}{4}$ millions, against $29\frac{1}{4}$ millions in 1906 and $26\frac{1}{4}$ millions in 1905. The business done in parcels is shown as follows:—

—	1906.	1907.
Total number of parcels	458,848	503,507
Inland value-payable parcels	82,435	98,117
Indian value-payable parcels	69,278	75,951
Collected from addressees of value-payable parcels.	Rs. 851,055	Rs. 867,587

134. The “snow ball” system of trading by post, which has now been checked by the Indian Postal authorities, resulted in 19,265 value-payable parcels from India being refused by the addressees and returned to India.

135. The following are the figures for Money Orders:—

—	1906.		1907.	
	No.	Value. Rs.	No.	Value. Rs.
Inland	270,059	7,158,908	292,422	8,062,074
Indian	156,514	4,379,922	174,231	4,751,428
United Kingdom ...	10,862	373,523	10,547	382,710
Colonial and Foreign ...	10,781	644,799	11,487	768,307
Total	448,216	12,557,153	488,687	13,964,518

The slight decrease in money order business with the United Kingdom is due to the increase in British Postal Orders.

136. The business done in Postal Orders is shown below:—

—	1906.		1907.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
Inland	53,488	Rs. 175,898	58,463	Rs. 192,112
British	9,854	£6,036	35,445	£10,248

137. The total number of telegrams was 807,996 in 1907 against 759,571 in 1906, an increase of 48,425 against an increase of 41,997 over 1905. Foreign telegrams (other than those sent to India) showed an increase of 17 per cent., against 10 per cent. in the previous year.

138. The number of miles of wire and of postal telegraph offices and railway telegraph stations is shown below:—

	1906.	1907.
Miles of wire	3,470	3,651
Number of postal telegraph offices	100	106
Railway telegraph stations ...	106	107

Postage Rates.

139. The unit of weight by the foreign post was raised from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to 1 oz., and the second rate on foreign letters reduced from 15 cents to 9 cents from October 1st, while the rates on foreign printed matter, patterns, and samples were slightly altered, with effect from January 1st, 1908, in order to bring them into conformity with the Postal Union regulations.

140. A general revision of the inland postage rates was sanctioned during the course of the year. The main features of it were the raising of the unit of weight for letters from 1 oz. to 4 oz., the reduction of rates on parcels between 1 lb. and 11 lb., the removal of the limit of weight on registered newspapers, and an increase in the rates for other printed matter, which has hitherto been carried at unremunerative rates. The new inland rates are on the lines of the postal rates in the United Kingdom. These alterations come into effect on January 1st, 1908, and the same rates will be extended to India from the same date. A reduction has also been made in the insurance rates on parcels to India, bringing them into line with the rates for insured letters.

IX.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

141. The total expenditure of the year was Rs. 1,601,310, as against Rs. 2,868,478 in 1906, or a decrease of Rs. 1,267,168. The colonial contribution for regular troops ($9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the revenue so long as that sum does not exceed three-fourths of the cost of the garrison for that year) amounted to Rs. 1,350,295, as against Rs. 2,526,240 in 1906. The decrease under this head is accounted for by the fact that during the whole year Ceylon had a Native Infantry Regiment (viz., the 75th Carnatic Infantry Regiment, which succeeded the 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment), the cost of which was less than that of a British Regiment.

142. The strength of all arms of the Volunteer Force on December 31st, 1907, was 1,904, exclusive of 463 members of the Cadet Battalion of the Ceylon Light Infantry, and of these, 1,720 or 90 per cent. were classed as efficient.

The annual camp was held for the fifth time at Diyatalawa, and lasted from July 11th to 20th. The attendance was higher than that of 1906.

The establishment of the Ceylon Mounted Rifles was increased during the year from 160 to 200.

The strength of the Ceylon Planters' Rifle Corps is practically the same as last year.

The Ceylon Volunteer Medical Corps is regaining its position as to numbers and efficiency.

The Volunteer Force was inspected by the Duke of Connaught, Inspector-General of the Forces, in March, and His Royal Highness expressed his approval at the result of the inspection.

The standard of musketry efficiency attained in 1906, which was high, has been maintained.

The expenditure on Volunteers during 1907 amounted to Rs. 239,247, as against Rs. 285,987 in 1906.

X.—PUBLIC WORKS.

(A.) PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

143. The expenditure of the Public Works Department during the last two years may be compared as follows:—

	1906.	1907.
	Rs.	Rs.
Personal Emoluments	558,897	533,049
Other Charges	83,010	89,857
Public Works Annually Recurrent	2,582,398	2,648,741
Public Works Extraordinary	1,901,588	1,929,416
Works chargeable to Loans, &c....	133,083	227,081
Total	5,258,976	5,428,144

144. The total expenditure of the Public Works Department has steadily increased during the last ten years from Rs. 4,190,003 in 1898 to Rs. 5,428,144 in 1907.

145. The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department during the year was 3,763 miles, of which 3,423 miles are cart roads and 340 miles are bridle roads. The construction of cart roads where required is receiving the close attention of Government, and the hospital accommodation throughout the Colony is being largely increased.

(B.) COLOMBO HARBOUR WORKS.

146. The total expenditure upon the works during 1907 amounted to Rs. 1,725,611·40, and the total expenditure since the commencement of the South-west Breakwater in 1873, including maintenance charges, &c., amounted to Rs. 37,979,274·98.

New Arm, South-west Breakwater.

147. Preliminary work on the foundations commenced as soon as weather permitted in October, and up to the end of the year 19 blocks were set. Owing to the exposed position the work presents considerable difficulties, and it is estimated that it will not be finished for five or six years.

Graving Dock.

148. The Dock was occupied on nine occasions during the year. The revenue amounted to Rs. 23,947·19, and the expenditure to Rs. 34,738·52. A start was made on the north guide pier in November. It is hoped that a considerable length of the total 800 feet will have been completed before the arrival of the south-west monsoon of 1908.

Patent Slip.

149. The slip was used on twenty-nine occasions, producing a revenue of Rs. 33,532. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 10,066·94.

New Projects.

150. During the year borings were taken opposite the present Harbour Works yard with a view to framing an estimate of cost of two jetties which could be used for berthing large steamers. The estimate is now being prepared by the Consulting Engineers. Consideration of the proposed Wet Dock has been postponed, there being no pressing need for increased harbour accommodation at present.

(C.) RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

(Open Lines.)

151. The total length of railways open at the end of 1907 was 562 $\frac{1}{8}$ miles.

152. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 10,695,430, being Rs. 591,835 in excess of the preceding year; to this increase goods traffic contributed more than half, viz., Rs. 327,640; ordinary passenger receipts increased by Rs. 239,823. The increases in goods traffic were principally on rice, manure, machinery, bridge and building materials, food stuffs, tea, cacao, fruits, and vegetables.

153. The actual working expenses for 1907 (excluding expenditure on new works, &c.) were Rs. 5,362,470, as compared with Rs. 5,233,269 in 1906.

154. The result of the year's working was therefore as follows:—

Receipts	...	...	...	10,695,430
Working expenses	...	...	...	5,362,470
Profit				5,332,960

155. Of this profit, the sum of Rs. 1,116,200 was expended in providing additional accommodation, rolling stock, increased safety appliances, &c.

156. The total capital cost of the railway, including additional accommodation provided, up to December 31st, 1907, amounted to Rs. 84,011,755. The profit on the capital cost of the railway, including additional accommodation, to December 31st, 1907, was therefore 6·35 per cent. The capital outstanding on loans on January 1st, 1907, was Rs. 39,154,126.

157. The results of the year's working may be considered satisfactory, for whilst the gross receipts exceeded last year's total by Rs. 591,835, the working expenses were only increased by Rs. 128,544, and this notwithstanding heavy expenditure in 1907 on works for the prevention of slips and washaways and damage by floods. The result in fact reflects the prevalent prosperity in the Island.

158. The sanctioned scheme for the provision of additional goods vehicles, to bring the stock up to a more satisfactory level for dealing with the traffic, was completed during the year by the supply of 30 four-wheeled covered goods waggons, 12 iron high-sided waggons, and six bogie low-sided waggons. Twelve additional high capacity waggons for coal and firewood were also ordered from home and delivered at the end of the year.

159. Additions were also made to the passenger stock, including 2 bogie brake refreshment cars lit by electric light and a complete suburban block train also electrically lit. Steady progress is being made in the installation of Stone's electric light in carriages in lieu of the old-fashioned and unsatisfactory oil lamps. Six suburban tank engines of a new and powerful type were obtained from home to replace old and obsolete engines. Important additions were made to the locomotive workshops and machinery therein in pursuance of the policy of bringing these thoroughly up to date with labour-saving plant.

160. Very little trouble was experienced during the year by slips and washaways on the main line, the only serious case being a slip at Watawala on October 2nd, which blocked the

line for five days. Heavy rain on the northern line on and from December 15th caused serious damage, and interrupted traffic totally for a day and partially for several days more.

Colombo Stations Extension.

161. This important scheme, which includes the rebuilding and enlargement of the Maradana Junction station, an extension of the goods yard, new running sheds, and the duplication and deviation of the main line across a portion of reclaimed lake, and the construction of a new Fort station for the business centre of the city, made substantial progress during the year. The new Maradana station is well advanced, and six acres have been reclaimed from the lake for the goods yard extension. The total estimate for the whole work, which is being charged against loan funds, is Rs. 4,447,145, out of which Rs. 1,320,860 had been spent up to the end of 1907.

RAILWAY EXTENSION.

Negombo Railway.

162. The construction of the railway to Negombo, for which sanction had been obtained towards the end of 1906, was taken in hand, the first sod being turned by Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., at Negombo, shortly before he relinquished office. This extension will be on the broad gauge, and will connect with the present main line at Ragama. Practically it will form an extension north of Colombo of the present Sea Coast Railway to Galle and Matara. It is being constructed out of General Revenue. The total estimate is Rs. 1,641,471, out of which Rs. 254,622 was spent in 1907.

Ratnapura Railway.

163. A re-survey of the proposed branch narrow gauge line from Avisawella to Ratnapura was made during the year for the purpose of revising the grading and curvature. The estimated cost of the revised trace is calculated by the consulting engineers at Rs. 2,953,408. With the development of rubber cultivation in the neighbourhood, the estimated receipts are now considerably more than they were when the project was first put forward, and the consulting engineers anticipate that there will be a profit of some Rs. 44,000 per annum, after payment of working expenses and interest and sinking fund at $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The extension has now (1908) been finally sanctioned by the Secretary of State, and the work of construction will shortly begin. The cost will be met from loan funds.

Mannar Railway.

164. Sanction has been received for the survey of this all-important link of communication with South India, and the work is now in hand. The estimate is expected to be completed by about October, 1908. It has been decided that the line, if constructed, shall branch off from the main line at Madawachchi.

Badulla-Passara Railway.

165. A detailed survey and estimate of an extension of the main line from Bandarawela to Badulla and Passara was made during the year. Two estimates have been framed, one for a broad gauge railway to Passara throughout (Rs. 9,254,641), the other for a broad gauge to Badulla and a narrow gauge to Passara (Rs. 7,802,500), but the working expenses of the mixed gauge would be considerably higher than those of the broad gauge. It remains to be seen whether it is possible to fix rates which will result in a profit sufficient to cover the interest and sinking fund on so large an expenditure.

(D.) IRRIGATION.

166. The expenditure on construction in 1907 was Rs. 415,452, as against Rs. 481,629 in 1906. An extent of 1,704 acres of new land was opened for irrigation in 1907, of which 575 acres were in the Southern Province, 461 acres in the Eastern Province, and 470 acres in the North-Central Province. A large amount of work was done during 1907 in preparing contoured plans of the areas irrigated by various works, both old and recently constructed, and in the preparation of accurate specifications of the lands irrigated and irrigable by each scheme.

(E.) COLOMBO DRAINAGE WORKS.

167. Messrs. Mansergh & Sons' scheme for the drainage of Colombo has been in course of construction since 1904. The whole scheme is estimated to cost about 20½ million rupees, and up to the present an expenditure of Rs. 5,200,000 has been sanctioned for dealing with the area which at present drains into the harbour, containing about one quarter of the population; and a further expenditure of Rs. 1,500,000 has been approved for extending the main sewer to intercept partially the sewage which at present drains into the lake in the centre of the city.

168. Sewers are being laid in all the principal streets, gravitating to a pumping station near the harbour, where the sewage will be lifted into a main sewer and led away about 2¼ miles to a terminal pumping station and bacterial treatment

works, whence the purified effluent will be discharged into the Kelani river near the Victoria bridge. The sewers are capable of taking six times the dry weather flow of the sewage, and separate drains are being provided for dealing with heavy rainfall.

169. The total length of sewers and rain water drains completed up to December 31st, 1907, amounted to $16\frac{3}{4}$ miles, showing a progress of $6\frac{1}{4}$ miles during the year. At the harbour pumping station all the heavy works up to ground level have been completed. At the northern pumping station and treatment works all the deep excavations have been finished, and building operations have been commenced in the foundation of the pumping station; the storm water beds and outfall channel are well advanced. Altogether about 187,000 cubic yards of excavation has been done; and about 22,250 cubic yards of concrete and masonry and $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles of stoneware pipes have been put in place.

170. The total expenditure up to December 31st, 1907, amounted to Rs. 2,896,955.36, of which Rs. 996,742.38 was expended during 1907. In December, 1907, 2,421 men were employed upon the works, as against 1,467 in December, 1906.

XI.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A.) IMPORTANT EVENTS.

171. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, accompanied by the Princess Patricia, honoured Ceylon with a visit in the early part of the year. His Royal Highness, as Inspector-General of the Forces, inspected the military forces in the Colony, and paid a visit to the Diyatalawa Camp. He also unveiled the statue erected at Kandy by the planters of Ceylon to the memory of Ceylon Volunteers who fell in the South African War.

172. Ceylon was also visited by His Majesty the King of Siam, who spent some days in the Island.

173. The news of the death of Lady Ridgeway, wife of Sir West Ridgeway, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., who was Governor of the Colony from 1896 to 1903, was received with great regret by the people of Ceylon. A number of ladies, representative of the different communities of the Island, have collected some Rs. 40,000, and it is proposed to build a hospital for children in memory of the deceased lady.

174. A commencement was made with the building of an observatory in Colombo, and by the time this report is published the construction should be about finished. The observatory will be in direct charge of the Surveyor-General, and its erection will remove the reproach from Colombo of being the only port of any importance within the British Empire unprovided with accurate time signals for the use of its shipping. The immediate work which the observatory will undertake will be the supply of correct time to the harbour three times a day through a time ball which will be erected on the Pilot's tower. The meteorological instruments, which have been working at the Surveyor-General's office under most unsatisfactory conditions for the past few years, will also be transferred to the observatory grounds, as well as the seismograph, which has been temporarily erected at the Technical College. It is hoped that, by gradual accession of fresh instruments, Ceylon will eventually take a place commensurate with its importance in the international scheme for the advancement of astronomical and meteorological science, for which it is so conspicuously suited by its geographical position.

175. A cyclone of exceptional severity for Ceylon caused great damage in the east of the Island in March, 1907, and coconut cultivation, which is the principal agricultural industry in that district, will take some years to recover. Thousands of trees were uprooted, and the total damage was variously estimated at from Rs. 4,000,000 to Rs. 6,000,000. As the fallen trees threatened to become a grave source of danger by affording breeding ground for beetles and other pests, Government voted Rs. 100,000 towards the destruction of the trees, and appointed a special officer to supervise the work.

(B.) PUBLIC SERVICE.

176. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., who had been Governor since December 3rd, 1903, relinquished the administration on July 11th, 1907, and was succeeded by Sir Henry McCallum, G.C.M.G., A.D.C., late Governor of Natal, who arrived in the Colony on August 24th.

177. The Hon. Mr. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Trinidad, was appointed to succeed the late Sir Alexander Ashmore, K.C.M.G., as Colonial Secretary, and assumed duties on May 18th, relieving the Hon. Mr. G. M. Fowler, C.M.G., who had acted as Colonial Secretary from the time of Sir Alexander Ashmore's death. Mr. Clifford administered the Government during the period between the departure of Sir Henry Blake and the arrival of Sir Henry McCallum.

178. Mr. Bernard Senior, I.S.O., late Auditor-General of the Orange River Colony, was appointed to the newly created post of Colonial Auditor.

(C.) IMMIGRATION.

179. The number of immigrant labourers for the year 1907 was 58,724, as against an average of 103,000 during the five preceding years. There can be no doubt that there is increasing demand by other colonies for the services of the South Indian coolies, and that additional inducements are required to retain for Ceylon her position among the competitors. A representative Labour Commission has been appointed to inquire into and advise upon this important but complicated question.

(D.) OPENINGS FOR INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL.

180. Rubber, coconut, tea, and plumbago are the chief openings for investment of capital. In the Western and Central Provinces the area of land at the disposal of the Crown for sale is rapidly shrinking, but in the rest of the Island, and notably in Uva, the North-Western, and the Southern Provinces, large tracts are available.

(E.) GENERAL CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

181. The general condition of the Colony is one of steady prosperity. The staple agricultural products are in a sound position, and the export of rubber is rapidly increasing. The general rise in material well-being and the standard of comfort is reflected in the ever-increasing value and variety of imports.

(F.) SOCIAL AND MORAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

182. The complaint that education results in the educated classes leaving the country for the town finds many echoes in the reports of the Government Agents in Ceylon. "The educated man no longer lives upon or cultivates his land; he either leases it or works it with hired labour, while he himself enters the Government service or becomes a clerk in a mercantile firm." "The education given is only good in that it supplies the possessor with an instrument to assist him in competing for employment and endeavouring to alter his position from that of an agriculturist to that of a clerk or mechanic." "The tendency seems to be to create a distaste for an agricultural life, which after all is the only occupation open to the great majority of the people."

183. The moral condition of the people is better than statistics would lead one to believe. In the North the people are law-abiding and peaceful, and crime is rare; in the Central Province crime is reported to be decreasing; while in the Chilaw District of the North-Western Province there is said to be an absence of really serious crime. In the low-country maritime Provinces—*i.e.*, Western and Southern—crimes of violence are still common, but the Southern Province

shows a distinct improvement, and up to the present a single Magistrate has presided over the Police and Municipal Courts of the city of Colombo, with a cosmopolitan population of nearly 200,000. It must be remembered that the inhabitants of Ceylon are extremely litigious and prone to bringing false charges against their enemies, and it must not be presumed that the heavy work in the courts connotes a proportionate prevalence of serious crime.

A. R. SLATER,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

April 10th, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony &c.	Year.
528	Bermuda	1906
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do. (1906-7).
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 557.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

REPORT FOR 1906-7;

with Returns of Concessions granted for the period 1st July, 1906,
to 31st December, 1907.

(For Report for 1905-6, see No. 519.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1908.



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[Cd. 3729-21.] Price 3d.

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No. 557.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 519.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Governor's Office, Nairobi,

6th March, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Administration of the East Africa Protectorate for the year ending the 31st March, 1907.

2. The submission of this report has been delayed as it was intended that it should accompany the Blue Book for the same year, which it has not yet been found possible to get through the press.

I have, &c.,

J. HAYES SADLER.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE FOR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

1. The estimated revenue for the year ended March 31st, 1907, was £381,646; and the actual revenue collected exclusive of a Parliamentary Grant of £164,000 was £461,362 14s. 8d. This shows an increase of £191,000 11s. 3d. over the revenue of the year 1905-6, which, exclusive of a Parliamentary Grant of £214,000, amounted to £270,362 3s. 5d. The gross receipts of the Uganda Railway were, for the first time, shown under Protectorate Revenue.

2. The following table shows the detailed actual revenue collected in 1906-7. The total revenue only for 1905-6 is given, the details being of little use for purposes of comparison owing to the reclassification of revenue in accordance with the financial instructions:—

	Amount collected in the year 1905-6.			Amount collected in the year 1906-7.			Increase.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Parliamentary Grant	214,000	0	0	164,000	0	0			
Total Grants	214,000	0	0	164,000	0	0			
Customs				81,302	13	0			
Port, Harbour, Wharf, and Light- house Dues.				666	12	8			
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue not otherwise classified.				83,200	19	1			
Fees of Court or Office Payments for specific services, and Reim- bursements-in-Aid.				19,703	1	3			
Post Office and Telegraphs				15,734	1	10			
Government Railways				281,375	1	1			
Rents				10,991	13	4			
Interest... ..				1,825	1	2			
Miscellaneous Receipts				8,720	4	1			
Sale of Government Property				3,974	4	5			
Total exclusive of Land Sales.				621,493	11	11			
Land Sales				3,869	2	9			
Total	484,362	3	5	625,362	14	8			
Total exclusive of Grant	270,362	3	5	461,362	14	8	191,000	11	3

3. It is still possible, however, to compare some of the main sources of revenue, and of these the most gratifying is the Uganda Railway, whose revenue amounts to £231,375 1s. 1*d.*, being an excess over expenditure of £68,838 10s. 11*d.* for the year. These figures indicate a general steady increase of the total traffic, and are the more encouraging inasmuch as great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining suitable labour, and as the goods traffic during the last part of the year under review was disappointing, owing partly to the very scanty rainfall and partly to financial difficulties among the traders in the Protectorate.

Customs show an advance of £7,626, which is due to increase in trade and to the low rates of freight introduced by the Dale Line of steamers. It should be mentioned, however, that this sum includes £2,600 import transit duty, which is liable to be repaid.

Hut Tax also has risen from £44,541 to £61,292 18s. 7*d.*, owing largely to the more extensive area brought under administrative control and partly to the increase of the tax from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 in various provinces during the year.

Although, as noted above, the reclassification renders comparison between the two years, except in a few instances, of but little value, yet the total increase of revenue shows a very gratifying development of the Protectorate's resources.

Survey Fees show a decrease of £6,927, but it should be noted that the 1905-6 figures include the balance of the old Survey Fee deposit account, and further that these fees are payable in advance and the larger amounts were naturally paid when the first rush of settlers arrived in the country.

The apparently large increase in the revenue derived from rents of land must be largely discounted by the fact that a sum of £7,274 from the Railway Zone Suspense Account was credited under this head.

Expenditure.

4. The following table shows the actual detailed expenditure for 1906-7:—

	Expenditure.			
	1905-6.		1906-7.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Rent and Interest to H.H. the Sultan ...			17,000	0 0
Pensions			1,349	11 9
H.M. Commissioner			2,691	15 10
Deputy Commissioner and Secretariat ...			5,425	4 6
Provincial Administration			34,407	12 4
Treasury			5,522	12 10

	Expenditure.	
	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs Department		8,994 18 4
Port and Marine		9,168 7 2
" Special Expenditure		2,639 19 9
Audit Department		2,104 9 9
Legal Departments		8,030 0 9
Police		37,072 6 7
Prisons		7,012 18 1
Medical Departments		8,789 7 4
Hospital and Dispensaries		4,812 5 4
Education		68 0 7
Transport		28,662 1 11
Military Expenditure		70,604 8 11
" Special Expenditure		1,790 14 9
Miscellaneous Services		5,528 8 0
Bombay Agency		893 14 6
Post Office and Telegraphs		15,516 2 10
" Special Expenditure		3,137 18 5
Railway Department		162,536 10 2
" Special Expenditure		31,619 16 3
Agricultural Department		7,512 1 4
Forestry and Scientific Departments		3,871 0 7
Veterinary Department		3,372 6 9
" Special Expenditure		1,985 2 2
Immigration Department		688 9 1
Survey Department		15,104 19 9
" Special Expenditure		4,012 9 6
Land Office		3,000 6 4
" Special Expenditure		1,451 0 5
Public Works Department		12,655 3 5
Public Works Recurrent		22,732 2 5
" Extraordinary		62,756 5 7
Famine Relief		86 18 4
Nandi Expedition		1,481 1 7
Total	418,839 3 10	616,088 13 11

5. For the same reason as mentioned above with regard to the detailed revenue, the detailed expenditure for 1905-6 is omitted, but the total for 1906-7, viz.: £616,088 13s. 11d., shows an increase of £197,249 10s. 1d. over the preceding year. This is to a certain extent to be expected as a natural outcome of the largely enhanced revenue which necessitates in many cases a larger initial outlay—*e.g.*, building new stations, additions to the staff—but the large increase shown above is mainly attributable to the inclusion of the Uganda Railway expenditure of £193,156 6s. 5d. (including special expenditure of £31,619 16s. 3d.), whereas in the previous year only the profit on the working was shown.

The military expenditure shows a decrease of some £30,000 on last year, which may be ascribed largely to the reduction of the strength of the 1st and 3rd King's African Rifles by two companies each. Moreover the Zanzibar Government contribute a sum of £10,000 on account of the two companies stationed in Zanzibar.

6. The totals of the revenue and expenditure for the last six years, exclusive of Parliamentary Grants, are as follows:—

	Revenue			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1901-2	...	68,453	8 9	278,151	12 7	
1902-3	...	95,283	12 11	311,469	0 5	
1903-4	...	108,856	19 3	418,877	0 3	
1904-5	...	154,756	1 1	302,559	12 9	
1905-6	...	270,362	3 5	418,839	3 10	
1906-7	...	461,362	14 8	616,088	3 10	

(B.) TAXATION.

The only direct tax levied in the Protectorate is the Hut Tax, which shows an increase of £16,751 over 1905-6; with a total of £61,292, as against £44,541. This advance may partly be ascribed to the fact that the tax was raised during the year from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 in several provinces; but in a far greater degree to the extension of the area under administrative control. Increases to the staff of Collectors and Assistant Collectors were sanctioned enabling the Government to get more closely into touch with the natives of the existing districts and to open up and develop hitherto unadministered country; a new station was built in the Kenya Province with the most satisfactory results, inasmuch as the Hut Tax in that province showed an increase of £7,587. In certain cases the natives are allowed to pay the tax in labour or kind, but as a rule they now prefer to pay in specie.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The surplus of assets over liabilities on March 31st,

1907, was £225,708

From this must be deducted:—

Sanctioned in aid of expenditure, 1907-8 ... £81,177

Nairobi, intercepting sewer ... 12,000

Nairobi, removal of bazaar (on account) ... 8,000

Removal of Treasury and Audit Offices to Nairobi ... 23,500

Railway Surveys ... 10,000

Remanet Expenditure on Railway Special works:—

S.S. "Clement Hill" ... £772

Kilindini Pier ... 7,574

New Cargo Boat s.s. "Nyanza" ... 6,225

Piers and goods sheds at Jinja and

Entebbe ... 696 15,267 149,944

Balance available to be placed at interest .. £75,764

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The Protectorate has no Public Debt.

(E.) CURRENCY.

The East Africa Currency Order in Council, 1905, was brought into force as far as notes were concerned on April 1st, 1906; the subsidiary decimal coinage was not circulated during the year under report and the rupee currency continued in use. The actual amount of paper money in circulation during the year was £160,333 6s. 8d.

(F.) BANK.

The National Bank of India, Limited, under the authority of the Companies Acts, with branches at Mombasa and Nairobi, is the only bank which does business in the Protectorate. It has a paid-up capital of £5,600,000 and a reserve fund of £600,000.

(G.) MUNICIPALITIES.

There are two municipalities in the East Africa Protectorate, Nairobi and Kisumu. As pointed out in the previous reports, the possession of treaty rights by foreign Powers has hitherto prevented the creation of municipalities on the coast strip.

2. The comparative revenue and expenditure for the last five years are given in the following table:—

Name of Municipality.	Revenue and Expenditure.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nairobi ...	{ Revenue ...	12,770	17,233	40,866 0 0	44,036 0 0	58,742
	{ Expenditure	12,770	17,233	40,866 0 0	51,191 0 0	48,257
Kisumu ...	{ Revenue ...	—*	—	8,779 12 3	12,843 14 6	15,432
	{ Expenditure	—	—	8,418 4 3	15,727 3 6	14,409

* Kisumu was only made a municipality in 1904-5.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. The annual value of the Protectorate trade for the last five years was:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£
1902-3	443,032	148,060	591,092
1903-4	436,947	159,815	596,762
1904-5	518,143	234,664	752,807
1905-6	672,360	332,838	1,005,198
1906-7	753,647	440,705	1,194,352

Imports.

2. The above figures do not include importations on behalf of the East Africa or Uganda Administrations or for the construction and maintenance of the Uganda Railway, of specie or goods in transit. Including these figures, the total imports for the years in question amount to:—

Year.	Amount. £
1902-3 	700,660
1903-4 	604,367
1904-5 	741,785
1905-6 	974,402
1906-7 	1,226,649

There is a satisfactory increase of £81,287 in trade goods imported as compared with the previous year.

3. Comparing the principal articles imported in 1906-7 with those of 1905-6, the following call for notice:—

Agricultural implements have increased from £12,893 to £19,104, showing that serious work is being undertaken by landholders.

Wood consisting principally of scantlings and ceiling boards from Norway, has advanced from £14,560 to £22,670, an increase of over 50 per cent. As stated in the report for 1905-6 a decrease in the importation of timber will probably take place when the working of the large areas of forest in the Protectorate is commenced. Towards the end of the year under review a report on the Kenya Forests was submitted by Mr. D. E. Hutchins, which shows that they are of even greater value than was supposed.

Furniture shows a slight decrease, owing to the fact that indigenous woods are now being used for local manufacture.

Iron and steel wares show an advance from £23,919 to £33,406, and machinery, consisting principally of plant for fibre, cotton, and timber industries, has increased from £4,478 to £15,516.

Bags and sacks, chiefly imported from India and used mainly for packing produce, have risen by 33 per cent.

Provisions have increased by £10,000, a fact attributable to the importation in excess of actual present requirements, induced by the cheap freight of the Dale Line of steamers referred to above.

The import of spirits remains approximately the same, although the average price has increased.

Beer has advanced by 40 per cent. from £2,924 to £3,963, of which Great Britain and Germany each contributed half. The import of tea has doubled, partly owing to consumption by the natives.

Live stock shows a slight diminution, but to account for this it should be remembered that a consignment of 5,000 Australian sheep was imported in 1905-6.

Of trade goods, cotton is still far in advance of other importations, although only showing a slight increase as compared with 1905-6.

Exports.

The value of exports in 1906-7 amounted to £440,705. This sum, which, as in preceding years, includes the exports of produce from the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates, as well as goods in transit from German East Africa, Italian East Africa, and the Congo Free State, shipped through Mombasa, shows an increase of £107,867 on the figures of 1905-6, and of £206,041 on those of 1904-5.

The principal products exported were hides, rubber, ivory, mangrove poles and bark, chillies, beeswax, grain, cotton, fibre, copra, and potatoes.

The value of *hides and skins* exported has risen from £103,558 to £141,209. The trade in this commodity is almost entirely in the hands of Italian and American houses, who have agents in Uganda and German East Africa, as well as in the East Africa Protectorate.

Rubber has increased from £44,061 to £55,734. This is in a great measure due to the larger output from Uganda, which has advanced from £11,919 in 1905-6 to £20,403 in 1906-7.

The exports of *Ivory* have risen from £62,603 to £68,217. An analysis of the returns shows a slight increase in the quantity obtained from the East Africa Protectorate, and a corresponding decrease from Uganda. The amount shipped in transit from the Congo Free State has risen from £6,836 to £12,362.

The shipments of *mangrove bark and poles* show a slight increase in value (£10,036, as compared with £9,365 in 1905). The bark, used for its tanning qualities, fetches a good price in the home markets.

Chillies have advanced from 1,202 tons to 1,712 tons, the whole of which comes from Uganda. The price has gradually fallen from two rupees four annas to one rupee two annas per *frasila* of 36 lbs., so the export value in sterling remains the same. Half the chillies are exported to the United States and 20 per cent. to France.

The quantity of *copra* shipped has doubled in the past year, nearly the whole quantity exported being destined for France.

The export of cotton, which is now emerging from its initial stages, has increased in quantity from 80 to 200 tons, and has been mostly shipped to Great Britain, the value being £7,408, as against £2,726 in 1905. Considerable attention is now being

paid to this industry, which promises to furnish one of our staple exports. The coast districts and the country near the lake are comparatively well suited for the cultivation of cotton, and the quality produced is of high marketable value.

Fibre shows a slight falling off, due to the machinery of the principal firm getting out of order and work being retarded for some time in consequence. Early development in this direction may be looked for.

A novel feature in our exports is 30 lbs. of *gold*, which came from the mines of Ikoma in German territory close to the lake.

Sixteen tons of wool from imported Australian sheep, belonging to the East Africa Syndicate, appear for the first time as an export.

Potatoes have increased by 50 per cent., and nearly half the quantity is shipped to South Africa.

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

There was a reported discovery of diamonds on the Thika River during the year, but though many prospectors pegged out large claims, no results of any value were forthcoming. A copper reef was found at Tsavo, close to the Uganda Railway, but the ore has so far not proved of such a grade as to repay the cost of working. A mining expert has been sent out to investigate the possibilities of the existence of paying minerals in the Protectorate, and his report should throw some light on the question. Stone and lime quarries still continue to be worked, but in this connection there is little to add to the remarks made in the report for last year.

A most encouraging feature is the advance made in the fibre industry, which shows considerable progress, especially at the works of the Afro-American Trading Company at Voi. There can be little doubt that this will in time become a most important factor in the country's development. Another step in advance is the establishment of a cotton-ginning machine in Mombasa, which has done a considerable amount of work as reported last year.

Native manufactures in the coast districts include the extraction of vegetable oils, the production of copra and coir, the weaving of cloth, and the making of mats and baskets.

Ice and soda-water factories also exist in Mombasa and Nairobi. Many of the European farmers in the Highlands have met with success in the preparation of bacon for local consumption.

The fish supply in the coast towns still remains plentiful, and fish are now regularly sent from Mombasa to Nairobi.

The trout, the introduction of which was reported last year, have proved a successful experiment, and some of the fish have now reached a not inconsiderable size.

4. Indigenous woods are used in large quantities for the construction of furniture, and for building purposes, and with the further development of the large forest areas in the Protectorate, the import of timber will, to a very large extent, cease.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND FARMS.

Highlands.

Considerable progress was made on many of the farms, and live stock including cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, and poultry increased in numbers on most of the homesteads; sheep breeding for local consumption and wool purposes is progressing in the Naivasha Province, where the mortality is on the decrease.

The local demand for milk butter and cheese still continued good, and pig breeding proved a success in many districts.

Several varieties of wheat, more or less rust-resisting, were introduced with promising results, and potato growing for local consumption and export is still a feature on many farms.

Attention is still being given to ramie growing, but the want of a cheap decorticator is retarding the development of this industry.

The exploitation of forests has made considerable progress, and largely increased quantities of local timber have been used for building purposes. Coffee-growing has made a very marked improvement, and fruit-growing is receiving attention.

Lowlands.

In the lowlands, that is, the coast districts and the low-lying country in the vicinity of Lake Victoria, all tropical fruits and plants do well. There are large cocoanut plantations, and a considerable quantity of rice, which forms the main article for consumption by the natives, is grown in the coast districts. As pointed out in previous reports, this area is a very fertile one, and in return for a minimum amount of labour, the native can produce sufficient for his immediate wants.

Cotton has made considerable progress at Malindi, and the export of this commodity is increasing rapidly. This industry is also carried on at Kibos and in other suitable districts. The output of Sansevieria fibre has made great strides, more especially at the Afro-American Company's works at Voi, referred to elsewhere in this report.

The cultivation of sisal hemp is being largely taken up in the coast areas, and there is a considerable demand for these plants.

Experimental Farms.

Nairobi.—This farm has given on the whole satisfactory results; many seeds and plants were distributed and the fibre industry, to which great attention is being paid, should shortly show considerable progress. Fruit trees have also done well; but the trees are still young, and it is impossible to say how they will turn out eventually.

2. It is regrettable to have to report the total failure of a series of experiments of various kinds of wheat imported from India and Australia, owing to the depredations of caterpillars which also affected other crops to a greater or less extent. It is proposed to appoint an entomologist whose services should prove of value in checking the ravages of these and other insect pests. The question of manures suitable to the soil is one of primary importance and requires careful study.

3. It is proposed to move the situation of the farm inasmuch as the area of good land is very limited on the present one, and for general agricultural purposes a better one is desirable, and steps were taken in this direction after the close of the year under report.

Naivasha.—Much good work has been done at this farm during the past twelve months, and much information gained on various points tending to make farming in the East Africa Highlands more successful.

Tick fever is at present one of the greatest obstacles to successful stock farming, all imported stock being particularly liable to contract this fatal disease though native cattle on the farm have been immune. Inoculation, it is hoped, will ultimately provide a remedy, but pending this, good results are being obtained by cross breeding with native cattle and then grading up with purer bred bulls, and it has now been clearly established that cattle can be bred successfully once they are acclimatized.

In the graded herd with 65 head of calves and yearlings only two deaths were recorded and those shortly after birth, and though several cases of tick fever occurred none of them were fatal. The cross-bred animals in the first generation showed a distinct advance on native stock, and in the second generation this was even more marked.

Sheep have proved very satisfactory during the past year, though, as in the case of cattle, pure bred stock have not answered when grazed on the veldt.

Cross-bred and graded stock have again been most successful, yearling rams producing $8\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of wool and yearling ewes $7\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. Insistence is laid on the necessity of crossing a pure breed of mutton sheep with native ewes and thus obtaining hardiness and a large framed animal before introducing a merino strain for wool purposes.

Crossing a native sheep at once with a merino ram does not seem to be productive of good results.

Pigs would seem to hold out special hope of success, though until a bacon curing industry is established the market for store pigs must necessarily remain uncertain.

Attention is drawn to the somewhat erroneous notions that have hitherto existed as to the carrying capacity of farms in the Highlands. Applicants for land consider a 5,000 acre farm too small; the Government farm of 2,600 acres, 300 acres of which is rough land outside the ring of fence, has proved sufficient for nearly 3,000 head of various kinds, mainly sheep, and even then the whole area has not been utilized.

The farm has once more been of great service to settlers in supplying them with young stock.

Mazeras.—Many valuable commercial plants and trees have been experimented with at this farm during the past twelve months with most encouraging results as regards rubber, fibre, cocoa, coffee, cotton, and tobacco.

This farm is now being moved to a more accessible situation in the vicinity of the railway line, and will be placed under the charge of skilled West Indian cultivators, so that it may prove of real service to intending settlers in the tropical coast region.

Kibos.—This farm, which is situated near mile 575 of the Uganda Railway, was established mainly with a view to ascertaining the possibilities of cotton in this district, and though the site chosen has since proved to be not particularly good, the experiments as far as they go may be said to be a success, though complete statistics are not yet available.

Proposals for selecting another larger and more suitable site are now being considered, and it is hoped that this farm may be instrumental in introducing cotton into the surrounding Kavirondo country where, the natives being largely agriculturists, good progress should be made in this increasingly important industry.

Forests.

1. A considerable amount of planting was done in the coast areas during the year, and the teak trees at Shimba and Mazeras have done well. At the latter place they have now an average height of 22 feet and an average girth of 6 inches, at a height of 5 feet from the ground.

A new rubber tree was discovered in the Shimba Hills, which has been very favourably reported on, and should prove of value. A large number of trees have been planted out and are flourishing. The experiment of taking cuttings from *Landolphia Kirkii* has proved successful.

2. The more successful plantation in the Highlands was that of *Croton Elliottianus* and Mlangi cedar, but other varieties of trees planted during the year were totally ruined by the excessive drought.

3. There is an increasing demand for podocarpus and juniper for building purposes, and 11,710 fencing posts, made from Muhugu trees, were supplied to the Veterinary Department; these should last a considerable time.

4. 47,309 tons of fuel were delivered during the year to the Uganda Railway, as against 27,947 tons in the preceding year.

5. *The actual revenue of the Forest Department exclusive of rents and royalties on Forest Concessions amounted to £2,439, in addition to which timber to the value of £3,523 was supplied free to the Government Departments, more especially the Uganda Railway.

6. The possibilities of the forests on Mount Kenya have been referred to elsewhere in this report, and have been thoroughly discussed in the report submitted by Mr. Hutchins.

Diseases of Plants and Animals.

The country may be said to have been singularly free from plant diseases during the year under review, though in some cases caterpillars have proved destructive to the crops. The bean crops at Kibos suffered through want of rain, and on the coast much damage was done by insects in many of the coconut plantations.

2. Isolated cases of coast fever have occurred among the cattle, and there have been eight outbreaks of pleuropneumonia involving some 1,200 head of cattle.

Rinderpest was reported to be prevalent in Jubaland, and the first outbreak of quarter evil known in the country occurred. Trypanosomiasis proved fatal to a large number of cattle in the neighbourhood of Taveta, and tsetse fly was discovered on the banks of the Voi River.

3. Mortality from horse sickness decreased, the deaths being 36 as against 80 in the previous year, a considerably lower proportion, if the increase in the number of horses is taken into consideration. A number of donkeys died of trypanosomiasis in the Malindi District.

4. Scab was fairly prevalent among sheep, and many deaths were due to nostril fly and intestinal worms.

5. Tick fever and distemper were the cause of a high rate of mortality among dogs.

* The system by which rents from Forest Concessions are not credited to the Forest Department is somewhat unsatisfactory. In future years all rents will be credited to the Forest Department.

(D.) LAND GRANTS, VALUE OF LAND, AND SQUATTING.

During the year 1906 the total number of land grants amounted to 292,741 acres, as against 549,828 acres in 1905. The apparent decrease is accounted for by the grants of 320,000 acres to the East Africa Syndicate, and two grants of 64,000 acres each to Messrs. Lingham and Grogan and the Afro-American Trading Company in 1905; so that the amount of land granted has in reality nearly trebled. Owing to the separation of the Land and Survey Offices and the increase in the staff allowed, applications were greater.

The land grants dealt with in 1906 were distributed as follows:—

District.				Acres.	—
Seyidie	...	...	...	1,280	{ $\frac{1}{2}$ Leasehold. $\frac{1}{2}$ Freehold.
Tanaland	...	...	...	Nil	—
Jubaland	...	...	...	"	—
Ukamba	...	...	...	120,570	{ 95,028 Leasehold. 25,542 Freehold.
Naivasha	...	...	...	116,123	{ 110,123 Leasehold. 6,000 Freehold.
Kisumu	...	...	...	50,768	{ 42,774 Leasehold. 7,994 Freehold.
Kenya	...	...	...	4,000	Leasehold.

The price of freehold for agricultural purposes averaged 3s. 5d. per acre, and for grazing 1s. 5d. All available land in the neighbourhood of Nairobi, Kikuyu, Limoru, and for some 30 miles along the Fort Hall road has been taken up. Many applications are being received for land on the coast belt for the purposes of growing cotton and rice and collecting rubber, and for land in the country between the highlands and the coast for fibre. Steps have been taken to survey land in the Fort Hall and Sotik Districts, which, however, owing to the increased expense of transport is less sought after.

(E.) SURVEY.

This department was separated from the Land Office during the course of the year under review, and divided into two sections, the trigonometrical and cadastral, and a considerable increase of staff was sanctioned, with the result that 870,267 acres were surveyed, as against 745,533 and 618,542 in 1905-6 and 1904-5 respectively. In view of the urgent necessity of setting the department on a proper footing, Major Hills, R.E., was deputed to report and make proposals. He laid great stress on the importance of the formation of a Land Board

(which has since been sanctioned), of a full topographical section, and of the immediate survey of the coast districts, which is now being undertaken.

The expenditure on survey in 1906-7 was £15,105 1s. 1d., as compared with £9,935 in 1905-6. The fees collected amounted to £3,020 4s. 11d.

(F.) LAKE SURVEY.

The survey of Lake Victoria was completed by Commander Whitehouse in September, 1906. The whole of the lake has now been carefully and accurately delineated, but a good deal remains to be done as regards soundings.

This work will be proceeded with as opportunity offers.

(G.) SHIPPING.

The two harbours of Mombasa and Kilindini, which lie respectively on the north and south sides of Mombasa Island, form the chief ports of the Protectorate. Kilindini is by far the larger of the two, and is used by the bigger steamers; Mombasa is narrow, and, though more conveniently situated owing to its proximity to the business quarter of the town, can only be used by the smaller steamers and dhows.

Landing facilities at Kilindini will be much improved by the extension of the harbour works, for which a sum of £56,000 was sanctioned during the year. Considerable progress has already been made with the work.

Of the five steamship lines which visited the Protectorate, one, the Austrian Lloyd, was definitely discontinued during the course of the year.

The Deutsche Ost Afrika Linie maintained a fortnightly service in both directions to Europe and to South Africa, the Messageries Maritimes Company a monthly service, to and from Europe. The steamers of this line proceed from Kilindini to Madagascar, but do not visit the South African ports.

Two British lines, the British India and British East Africa Line, ran a monthly service to and from Europe, the ships of the latter returning via Bombay, with which port the steamers of the British India and Deutsch Ost Africa Lines also maintained a service. These steamers call occasionally at Lamu, which port, as well as Wasin, Kilifi, Malindi, Kipini, and Kismayu, is regularly served by the Protectorate Steamship "Juba."

The two British lines are chiefly concerned with cargo. The establishment of a first-class service of British passenger boats would be an undoubted advantage, and it is earnestly hoped that some steps in this direction may be taken.

The accompanying table shows the gross tonnage and the quantity of cargo and the number of passengers carried by, these five steamship lines:—

Statement showing the number of steamers, gross tonnage, quantity of cargo, and number of passengers landed and shipped by the different lines of steamers entered in the Port of Mombasa during the year ending 31st March, 1907:—

Lines.	Number.	Gross Tonnage	Landed.			Shipped.		
			Cargo.	Passengers.		Cargo.	Passengers.	
				Euro-peans.	Natives.		Euro-peans.	Natives.
			Tons.			Tons.		
Austrian Lloyd, Europe	21	96,760	978	445	408	1,647	310	401
British East Africa Line, Europe ..	14	52,824	8,468	96	110	1,624	26	240
British India, Aden	17	54,161	1,360	15	319	1,223	28	493
British India, Bombay	13	42,103	4,706	43	1,759	1,389	20	239
British India, Europe	11	38,418	12,923	15	88	76	9	130
Deutsche Ost Afrika Linie, Bombay	54	131,820	8,928	155	2,691	1,702	137	2,509
Deutsche Ost Afrika Linie, Europe	52	241,987	11,050	819	678	22,999	376	789
Messageries Maritimes, Europe ..	24	94,724	524	209	281	434	259	325
Total	206	752,800	48,987	1,788	6,287	31,114	1,165	5,096

2. The following table shows the increase which has taken place in the number and tonnage of both steamers and sailing ships:—

	1905-6.		1906-7.		Increase.*	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Entered:—					(8,126 decrease.)	
Sailing vessels	2,870	75,195	3,235	67,069	365	—
Steamers	426	961,410	484	1,007,655	58	46,245
Cleared:—						
Sailing vessels	2,763	72,142	3,445	72,816	682	2,674
Steamers	425	957,480	484	1,010,944	59	53,464
Total	6,484	2,064,227	7,648	2,158,484	964	94,257

3. The total revenue of the Port Office amounted to £2,515 5s. 4d. in 1906-7, as compared with £2,419 12s. 7d. in 1905-6.

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Ordinances enacted during the year 1906-7 included the following:—

For regulating the relative rights and duties of masters and servants.

For consolidating and amending the laws relating to the protection of game.

For providing for the registration of Mohamedan marriages and divorces.

For regulating the introduction of and traffic in arms and ammunition.

For prohibiting the immigration of undesirable persons.

For regulating the dredging of rivers and their navigation by steam vessels.

For providing for the registration of books and newspapers.

For empowering His Majesty's Commissioner to authorise certain persons to act as Notaries Public.

For regulating the constitution of the Police Force.

For amending the Mining Regulations.

The following Order in Council was also promulgated,—

The East Africa and Uganda Currency Order in Council, 1906, to make certain alterations in the East Africa and Uganda Currency Order in Council, 1905.

IV.—ECCLESIASTICAL STATISTICS AND
EDUCATION.

As stated in previous reports, the natives of the interior can scarcely be said to have any religious beliefs, and although the inhabitants of the coast towns mostly profess Mahommedanism, it is only the higher class Arabs who strictly conform to its tenets. Eleven different missionary societies are at work in the Protectorate. The following table, though in some cases the statistics are approximate only, and in others are not available, indicates the extent of their work:—

Name.	Denomi- nation.	No. of Churches and Chapels.	Average Attendance.	Seating Accommo- dation.	No. of Schools.	No. of Scholars.	Nationality.
Church Missionary Society ... Church	Anglican	17	Not available.	2,130	17	717	British.
United Methodist Free ... Church	Methodist		825		13	840	"
Church of Scotland ...	Presbyterian	1	40	50	2	50	"
Mission du St. Esprit ...	Roman Catholic.	8	1,360	3,200	The children are given religious instructions in their native lan- guages.		French and Italian.
Algerian Mission ...	"	Two stations used as Rest Houses for for Uganda, Congo, and German East Africa.					French.
Evangelical Lutheran Mission ...	Lutheran	3	260	520	5	150	German.
Neukirchen Mission ...	"	11	No statistics available.		14	299	"
African Inland Mission ...	Undenomi- national.	8	350	515	5	74	American.
Friends Industrial Mission ...	Quaker	3	140	675	3	61	"
American Evangelical Mission ...	Protestant		No statistics available.				"
Swedish Mission ...	"	2	30	70	2	39	Swedish.

2. At most of these schools elementary instruction in reading and writing is given; and a most valuable work will be the industrial training now commenced by some of the missions. The Church Missionary Society has a hospital on Mombasa Island, and medical work is carried on at dispensaries at most of the up-country stations.

3. At Mombasa the Church Missionary Society has established the Buxton High School, which is attended by Indian and Eurasian children as well as by natives. Here, and in the other coast towns, there are Mohammedan schools where Arab and Swahili children are taught to read and write the Arabic character and recite from the Koran.

4. There are two European schools at Nairobi, one at the Roman Catholic Mission, a boarding school, and one kept by the Uganda Railway. The average attendance at the latter is 24 boys and 16 girls. The total expenditure is Rs. 8,745, of which the Government contributes Rs. 7,363.

5. As the country developes and the white population increases, the problem of education must, *pari passu*, become more and more difficult, owing to the long distances which separate the farms from each other and from Nairobi, and to the lack of easy means of transport. Various schemes for solving this question are under consideration.

6. Attached to the Railway European School is one for Indians, which had an average attendance of 45 boys and one girl, the expenditure being Rs. 2,037, of which the Government contribution was Rs. 1,281.

7. There are no Universities or Higher Colleges.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

1. There are European Government Hospitals at Mombasa and Nairobi. In the former 23 patients were admitted, of whom 15 were cured, 5 relieved, and 3 died, *i.e.*, 13 per cent.; in the latter there were 52 admissions; 26 were cured, 19 relieved, and 6 died, or 11·5 per cent.

2. At the Gaol Hospital, Mombasa, there were 179 admissions, 11 of whom died, giving a death-rate of 6·1, and at the native hospitals the returns were as follows:—

	Kilindini.	Nairobi.	Kisumu.
Admissions ...	982	334	523
Deaths ...	59	93	77
Percentage ...	6·01	28·01	14·7

(B.) ASYLUMS.

1. There are, at present, no lunatic asylums in the Protectorate. Native lunatics are confined in the gaol, and Europeans placed under medical supervision and sent to Europe as soon as possible. Provision has now been made for the erection of an asylum at Nairobi.

There are a considerable number of lepers in the Protectorate, and during the year a small Lazaretto was built at Mombasa, but the situation is not a good one, and the building is too small to be of much use. It is proposed to provide for a larger one.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The constitution of the Police Force on March 31st, 1907, was as follows:—

- 1 Inspector-General of Police.
- 1 Deputy Inspector-General of Police.
- 1 Superintendent.
- 9 Assistant Superintendents.
- 14 Inspectors.
- 9 Temporary Inspectors.
- 7 Sergeant-Instructors.
- 6 Native Sub-Inspectors.
- 11 Native Assistant Sub-Inspectors.
- 1,996 Rank and file.

The distribution of the force was as follows:—

Seyidie	...	...	...	395
Ukamba	...	...	...	527
Kenya	...	...	...	196
Naivasha	...	...	...	327
Kisumu	...	...	...	470
Tanaland	...	...	...	55
Jubaland	...	...	...	85

These are posted at 26 stations, at most of which there are no troops, so that their work is often semi-military, and includes such duties as escorts, guards of honour, &c.

The cost of the force was £37,072 6s. 7d., as compared with £37,835 17s. 7d. in 1905-6.

(B.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police and the magistrates during the year 1906-7 was 4,569, composed as follows:—

Offences against the person 667, prædial larceny 43, offences against property (other than prædial) 1,219, and other offences 2,640.

2. The following table shows the number of apprehensions, convictions, and acquittals for the last five years:—

—	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates.	2,892	3,315	3,472	4,015	4,569
The number of summary convictions—					
1. For offences against the person.	250	567	431	450	442
2. For prædial larceny	1	48	34	40	35
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	559	262	761	889	910
4. For other offences...	860	1,821	1,585	1,853	2,371
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts—					
1. For offences against the person.	7	13	1	6	4
2. For prædial larceny	—	—	—	—	—
3. For offences against property other than prædial larceny.	1	—	—	8	1
4. For other offences...	1	10	6	3	13
The number of persons acquitted—					
1. In the Inferior Courts.	1,208	594	647	763	773
2. In the Superior Courts.	5	5	6	3	21

3. In 1906-7 39 cases were tried by the Court of Sessions, 18 of which resulted in convictions, the remainder falling through for want of prosecution.

4. There has been a general increase in the judicial work of the Protectorate. The number of persons summoned or apprehended was 4,569, as against 4,015 in 1905-6. The total number of civil cases tried shows a slight decrease, due to a reduction in the number of cases of small value in the Tanaland Province.

5. The revenue has increased from Rs. 43,432 to Rs. 122,091, an advance mainly attributable to fines in connection with confiscated ivory. Court fees, however, show an increase of over Rs. 10,000.

6. During the year the Criminal Procedure Ordinance was issued giving Europeans the right to trial by jury in the more serious cases.

(C.) PRISONS.

1. The number of prisons in the Protectorate is still 28, but, as reported last year, many of these are more in the nature of lock-ups, where long sentence prisoners are not confined. The principal prisons are in Mombasa, Nairobi, and Kisumu. Whenever possible, European prisoners are confined in the former. The Nairobi prison is unsatisfactory, and since the expiry of the year under review, the erection of a new one has been commenced, which should provide ample accommodation and replace the Mombasa Prison as the place of detention for Europeans, the latter being unsuitable on account of the heat, although necessity has compelled its use in the past.

2. The total number of convicted prisoners committed to the prisons in 1906-7 was 4,630, and the daily average 657·6. Sixteen prisoners escaped during the year, of whom two were recaptured. The daily average of sick was 49·1, and 31 deaths occurred.

3. Political offenders are as a rule interned at Kismayu, from which place escape is very difficult.

4. Prisoners are employed outside the prisons in road making, cutting wood, quarrying stone, cleaning bush, and work generally on the improvement of the stations. In some gaols they are employed in the manufacture of chairs, baskets, mats, and coir matting, and in Mombasa a considerable amount of tailoring work is done, including uniforms, prison clothing, and flags. Work of this nature has also been instituted in the Nairobi Gaol.

5. Vagrants are confined in gaol until they have earned sufficient to pay for their passage elsewhere—an arrangement by which the Protectorate practically, though not theoretically, is the loser, the work done not being worth the price paid for it. Deserving cases are assisted from a locally-subscribed fund known as the "Distressed British Subjects Fund."

6. The expenditure on the Protectorate prisons amounted to £7,012 18s. 1d. in 1906-7, as against £5,898 13s. in the previous year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

A census of the population of the Protectorate has never been taken, and under present conditions such an enumeration would be quite impossible. Even in the administered districts it is very difficult to give more than a very rough idea.

A very approximate estimate gives the population of the Protectorate at 4,000,000.

Despite the mortality from sleeping sickness in the lake shore, and an abnormally high infant mortality, the native population should tend to increase as internal peace is secured to the administration.

The white population may be taken, roughly, as 1,600, including Government officials.

(B.) BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

As reported last year, rules were published in February, 1906, under the Births and Deaths Registration Ordinance, making compulsory the registration of all deaths of Europeans, Americans, and Indians throughout the Protectorate, and of all deaths, including natives, in township areas; and the figures published this year are consequently much more complete than has hitherto been possible.

The registration of native births is optional, so that the returns of births and deaths cannot be compared with a view to ascertaining the increase or decrease of the population.

Moreover it must be remembered that the native deaths registered form only a very small proportion of the total population.

The returns for 1906-7 are as follows:—

Province			Births.	Deaths.
Kisumu	...	...	6	127
Naivasha	...	...	2	29
Ukamba	...	...	34	218
Kenya	...	...	4	1
Seyidie	...	...	139	770
Tanaland	...	...	—	181
Jubaland	...	...	5	21
Total	...	...	190	1,347

(C.) SLAVERY.

As pointed out in previous reports, the existence of domestic slavery is more theoretical than real. No additions to the number of slaves have been possible since the promulgation of Sultan Ali's decree in 1890, and they are in every case well treated, as is proved by the fact that no prosecutions for cruelty have taken place during the year, and no slaves have been freed on that account. Seventy-four slaves were freed during 1906-7, 69 in Tanaland and 5 in Seyidie.

Since the conclusion of the year under report steps have been taken to abolish the legal status of slavery and to compensate the owners.

(D.) CLIMATE AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The division of the Protectorate into three zones for the purposes of climatic description is a convenient one, though it must be understood that even within these sub-divisions there are considerable ranges in temperature and rainfall, which have a strong influence on the healthiness or unhealthiness of the districts concerned.

1. *The Coast.*

The region described as the coast may be held to include a strip about 100 miles broad, extending from the Anglo-German frontier to the Juba River. The rainfall is greatest in the more southern districts and least in Jubaland. As a rule the temperature, as indicated by the thermometer, is not excessive, but owing to the moisture of the atmosphere the heat is more trying to Europeans than would otherwise be expected. In the coast towns, however, during the monsoons a cool breeze blows constantly, and this is particularly the case between May and November, when the south-west monsoon is prevalent. The hottest season is in January, February, and March, but the nights are generally fairly cool, except during the lull between the two monsoons, when they are apt to be very oppressive. Most rain falls during April, May, June, and November, but the seasons are somewhat variable, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. The climate of the coast stations may be summed up as on the whole not unhealthy for Europeans, but after a long residence it is apt to be enervating, and a change is desirable from time to time. Malaria and other tropical illness are not frequent. In Jubaland the climate is hot and dry and the sun powerful, but the nights are cool. It is not an unhealthy region except for nervous diseases, which have been responsible for the invaliding of several officers.

About ten or fifteen miles inland the scrub country begins, and the heat, untempered by the sea-breezes, is less bearable. The stations situated in this belt, such as Rabai and Voi do not enjoy a good reputation for health, malaria occurring with some frequency. The same may be said of the Valley of the Tana, which is at certain seasons rendered almost intolerable by the presence of swarms of mosquitoes.

2. *The Highlands.*

The greater part of the interior of the East Africa Protectorate consists of ridges and plateaux ranging from 4,000 to 9,000 feet in height, one peak (Mount Kenya) reaching an altitude of 18,000 feet. Though naturally the whole of this upland country is not equally salubrious, it may safely be said that it is, generally speaking, exceedingly healthy. The sun, as might reasonably be expected so near to the Equator, is powerful during the mid-day hours, but the air is brisk and

invigorating, the nights are cool, and Europeans are able to exert themselves to an extent which would be impossible at the coast. This part of the country is regarded as well suited for colonization, and a large number of settlers have made their homes in it. A striking proof of the excellence of the climate is afforded by the healthy appearance of the children who have been born and brought up in this region. In fact, the only drawbacks appear to be a somewhat unduly great daily range of temperature and a prevalence of strong winds, which, in certain districts, are trying. Some stations, such as Kitui and Baringo, do not come up to the general standard, but they really lie on the outskirts of the highland region.

3. *The District round Lake Victoria.*

The shores of Lake Victoria are comparatively low-lying, and the heat consequently approaches and even exceeds that of the coast. Violent storms are frequent, and the climate is probably less agreeable than in any other part of the Protectorate. Malaria is common, and, if not carefully treated, frequently leads to attacks of black-water fever. Mumias and Kisumu have distinctly bad records in this respect, though an improvement in the accommodation and sanitary conditions of the latter station has rendered it less unhealthy.

4. *Public Health.*

The public health has on the whole been good, though there was a marked increase in the amount of malarial and black-water fever in the districts near Lake Victoria, corresponding with an unprecedented rise of the lake level. Only one European official died during the year and two were invalidated. The death was due to blackwater fever. The total mortality among the white population amounted to 13, or about 6 per 1,000.

Sleeping sickness still claims a large number of victims, but the disease seems to be to some extent abating in Kavirondo.

Plague broke out in Nairobi during the year and 26 deaths resulted out of 31 cases. There was also a slight epidemic at Kisumu. Three cases of enteric fever, of which two terminated fatally, were reported in Nairobi, thus proving the existence of this disease in the country. No authentic case had been known previously.

As in former years, the most prevalent diseases were those of the respiratory organs, especially pneumonia and pleurisy, and of the digestive system, which show a considerable increase over 1905-6.

These remarks only apply to cases dealt with in the hospitals which form only a very small proportion of the total population.

(E.) SANITATION.

General Sanitary Condition of the Protectorate and of the Chief Towns.

1. The general sanitary condition of the Protectorate must necessarily fall far short of modern ideas, and though there has been improvement at the Government Stations as regards the control of the water supply, clearing bush, &c., progress amongst the natives, and to an even greater degree among the Indians, cannot but be slow.

2. Mombasa, the principal coast town, suffers from want of a sufficient water supply; the European supply is collected in tanks, but in the event of an insufficient rainfall, a shortage might easily occur. The natives drink well water, which, however, is brackish and is responsible for many deaths from ankylostomiasis.

The sanitation of the town is carried out by a Conservancy Department, and as far as the European quarter is concerned is satisfactory. Some improvement in drainage has been effected during the year, but owing to the narrowness and irregularity of the streets the work is slow and difficult.

A considerable amount of bush clearing has been done.

3. The above remarks may be taken generally as applying to Malindi, Lamu, and Kismayu, which are all old Arab towns presenting the same difficulties.

4. The conservancy of Nairobi is undertaken by the staff of the Municipal Council. Nightsoil is buried in trenches situated at some distance from the town. The roads have been greatly improved, but the drainage still leaves much to be desired.

During the year Mr. G. B. Williams was deputed to report on the township of Nairobi and the advisability of removing it; his conclusion was that removal was out of the question in view of the enormous expense and inconvenience which it would entail, and that efficient drainage would be comparatively easy.

He submitted a scheme, which has since been taken in hand, so that a considerable improvement in this respect may soon be looked for.

5. In Kisumu, where there is also a Municipality, the same system of conservancy as at Nairobi is in vogue. Much clearing work has been carried out, the roads and side ditches greatly improved, and a sea-wall has been erected along the lake shore, which has considerably reduced the number of mosquitoes.

The water supply, derived from the lake, is very unsatisfactory, and has been the cause of a large increase in the number of deaths from dysentery.

Steps have been taken, since the expiry of the year, to improve the supply by the erection of water tanks.

VIII.—POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure.

—	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Revenue	2,529 17 1½	15,267 7 3¼	15,734 1 10½
Expenditure	8,517 6 3	21,657 10 8	20,803 16 0¼
Excess Expenditure...	5,987 9 1½	6,390 3 4¼	5,069 14 1¾

These figures include also the revenue and expenditure of the Uganda Protectorate; the two services being amalgamated.

The figures for East Africa for 1906-7 are £13,161 18s. 3d. (revenue) and £14,809 8s. 11¼d. (expenditure), leaving a deficit of £1,637 10s. 8¾d.

The expenditure includes an item of £3,550 12s. 1d. for telegraph construction, so that the actual working of the postal department shows a profit of £1,923 1s. 4¼d.

The general growth of postal business can be seen from the following table:—

—	Letters.	Post-cards.	News-papers.	Book Packets.	Parcels.	Tele-grams.
1905-6	890,070	52,142	236,706	78,735	12,803	71,688
1906-7	1,194,475	78,381	262,172	132,057	16,476	75,627
	304,405	26,239	25,466	54,322	3,673	3,939

Every item shows a large increase on the previous year, and the total transactions exceed those of 1905-6 by 417,044—1,759,188, as against 1,342,144—or an increase of 31 per cent. The increase in the previous year only amounted to 11¼ per cent. An arrangement was made for a direct exchange of parcels with Natal, much delay being thus prevented.

Mail Subsidy.

A subsidy of £9,000 per annum is paid to the British India Steam Navigation Company for the conveyance of mails to and from Aden. No actual share of this sum is charged to Protectorate funds, but mail transit dues are paid to the different administrations by which the Ocean mail services are maintained.

The Ocean mail services still leave a great deal to be desired. It is hoped that it may be possible to effect improvement, and a direct British service is much to be desired.

Money Orders.

The following figures show the development which has taken place in this Department of postal work:—

Year.	Money Orders Issued.		Paid.		Total Increase.
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	
1905-6	17,694	£ 91,872 1 9	6,048	£ 28,600 1 7	Number .. 4,063
1906-7	20,970	117,053 18 5½	6,835	39,054 3 8	Value .. £ 32,235 18 9½

As last year, the Inland Money Order transactions are mainly responsible for this increase, though the United Kingdom, India, Zanzibar, and Natal all show slight advance also.

The number of post and money order offices remains the same, and the telegraph offices have been increased by one.

There are in addition 28 post office agencies at different railway and customs stations.

An arrangement for the issue of British Postal Orders at Mombasa and Nairobi was made during the year, and the system was largely used, especially in the case of small remittances to the United Kingdom.

Telegraphs.

The total mileage open for traffic in the East Africa Protectorate is as follows:—

Districts.	Miles.
Mombasa to Lamu	200
Mombasa to Kilindini	2
Mombasa to Port Florence, three wires ...	1,752
Londiani to Ravine	18
Naivasha to Morendat	8
Nairobi to Fort Hall	55½
Njore to Lord Delamere	13
Lumbwa to Kericho	18½
Kibigori to Nandi	11½
Total	2,168½

This return does not include any telegraph lines in Uganda nor the telephone system, which extends over 38 miles in the Protectorate.

IX.—MILITARY FORCE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Forces of the Protectorate consist of four companies of the 1st Battalion King's African Rifles, recruited from the Yao, Atonga, and Angoni tribes in British Central Africa, and the 3rd Battalion, composed partly of Soudanese and partly of various East African tribes.

The strength of the former, which is a reserve battalion for service in any of the four African Protectorates, is 14 officers and 400 men, and of the latter 18 officers and 750 men, approximately. The headquarters of both battalions are at Nairobi. The 1st Battalion furnishes a detachment of 5 officers and 200 men at Zanzibar. The whole of the King's African Rifles, including the British Central Africa, Uganda, and Somaliland Battalions, are under an Inspector-General, who spends six months in each year in tours of inspection, and six months at the Colonial Office.

There is also a Volunteer Reserve, which receives a capita-tion grant from the Government for each efficient member. In the year under review it numbered:—

Mombasa Section	...	...	...	20
Nairobi Section	...	...	...	63
Railway Section	...	...	...	57

The expenditure incurred during 1906-7 shows a decrease on the previous year of some £33,000 in connection with military defence.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A.) IMPORTANT EVENTS.

1. The year 1906-7 is particularly noticeable owing to the decision arrived at to form Executive and Legislative Councils in the Protectorate. These Councils first met in July and August, 1907, respectively, and at once set to work to deal with the questions before them with a full sense of the responsibility attaching to their important functions. The Legislative Council, in particular, provides the non-official com-

munity with an opportunity of expressing their views through their representatives, and secures to the Government the advantages of independent criticism and advice. Its establishment marks a very definite step in the constitutional progress of the Protectorate.

2. With one exception, peaceful relations with the various native tribes prevailed throughout the year. The attitude of the Embo, a sub-division of the Kikuyu, necessitated a small expedition being despatched. Its object was very speedily accomplished, the tribe was completely pacified, and a rich and productive district was brought under direct Administrative control.

3. The Nandi have settled down quietly in their reserve, and their conduct is now exemplary, in fact, they bid fair to become one of the most industrious sections of the community.

4. Much attention was paid to the scientific and technical departments during the year, and highly interesting reports were furnished by Mr. G. B. Williams on the sanitation of Nairobi, by Mr. Macdonald on the Agricultural Department, and by Mr. Hutchins on the Forests of the Protectorate. The two latter gentlemen have been appointed heads of these respective departments, and the former is now Consulting Engineer in connection with a comprehensive scheme for the drainage of Nairobi.

5. The year was remarkable for several mining "booms," none of which, however, resulted in anything of practical value. An expert has, however, been appointed to revise the Mining Laws and advise as to the value of any discoveries made.

(B.) PUBLIC WORKS.

The development of the Protectorate and the opening up of new districts necessitated increases in the personnel of the Public Works Department Staff, both European and native, and in the expenditure on construction works. The total expenditure was estimated at £102,134, almost the whole of which sum was actually spent.

Roads.

A sum of £13,195 was allowed in the budget for the maintenance and repair of existing roads and the construction of new ones, and much valuable work was done during the year. A new road was opened across Mombasa Island. The Nairobi roads and the road from that place to Fort Hall were much improved, the latter involving the construction of several bridges.

The Kericho-Lumbwa road was completed, and the Mumias road repaired.

The following is a list of the various roads more or less cleared in the Protectorate:—

Districts.	Miles.
Mackinnon and Selater Roads—	
Mombasa to Kedong Valley	350
Kedong Valley to Port Victoria	240
Nairobi to Fort Hall	56
Lumbwa to Kericho	19
*Mombasa to Malindi	60
*Mombasa to Vanga	50
†Voi-Taveta Road	75
†Mkonumbi to Witu	22
†Malindi to Mambrui	10
†Nairobi to Dagoretti	9
*Machakos to Kitui	45
†Machakos Road Station to Machakos	22
†Londiani to Ravine	22
†Naivasha to Nyeri	45
†Fort Hall to Nyeri	26
Nairobi Township Roads	22
Nakuro to Baringo	90
Nakuro to Rumuruti	67
Gilgil to Rumuruti	65
Total	1,295

Canal.

The Belazoni canal, which originally connected the Ozi and Tana Rivers, can now scarcely be properly so called.

It has diverted all the water of the latter stream into the former, and is now practically the main outlet of the two rivers.

(C.) RAILWAY.

1. The only railway in the Protectorate is the Uganda Railway, running from Mombasa to Kisumu, the terminus on Lake Victoria, a distance of 584 miles.

It is a metre-gauge line, and the total cost of construction up to March 31st, 1907, was £5,420,840 3s. 5d.

The railway is now worked as a Protectorate Department in conjunction with the lake steamer service. The telegraph is managed by the Protectorate Postal Department at the larger and by the railway staff at the smaller stations. Two of the wires are leased by the railway, the third is used for public business.

2. The comparative figures for 1905-6 and 1906-7 are shown below:—

		Passengers.		Goods.
1905-6	...	178,789	...	39,657 tons.
1906-7	...	295,491	...	52,784 „

4,895 head of live stock were carried, as against 62,825 in 1905-6. This decrease is attributable to the fact that large numbers of cattle were carried during the Nandi Expedition in 1905-6, and to the importation of stock for the East Africa Syndicate's farms during that year.

3. The growth of revenue may be seen from the accompanying table:—

Revenue.

Heading.	1905-6.		1906-7.		+ or -.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Passengers	36,195 12 4		40,630 16 2		+ 4,435 2 10
Luggage	2,875 10 0		3,261 5 4		+ 385 15 4
Horses, dogs, &c. ..	1,273 11 3		1,216 5 11		- 57 5 4
Parcels	658 8 9		1,152 13 6		+ 494 4 9
Special trains	225 17 4		44 13 4		- 181 4 0
Miscellaneous	174 10 2		244 2 5		+ 69 12 3
Postal services	1,784 7 8		1,766 18 8		- 17 9 0
Total Coaching		43,187 17 6		48,316 14 4	+ 5,128 16 10
Merchandise	122,073 12 6		148,843 8 9		+ 26,769 16 3
Railway material	4,568 5 8		6,868 6 5		+ 1,800 0 9
Revenue stores	6,673 16 10		7,080 9 0		+ 406 12 2
Live stock	3,299 18 4		1,800 8 7		- 1,499 9 9
Demurrage	122 18 1		166 14 6		+ 43 16 5
Miscellaneous	560 4 2		88 9 2		- 475 15 0
Total Goods		137,298 15 7		164,347 16 5	+ 27,049 0 10
Steamboat service	—	22,340 1 5	—	26,451 6 8	+ 4,111 5 3
Sundries	—	1,358 12 7	—	1,505 2 10	+ 146 0 3
Telegraph	—	743 9 1	—	590 17 4	- 152 11 9
Total	—	204,928 16 2	—	241,211 17 7	+ 36,283 1 5

Expenditure.

Heading.	1905-6.		1906-7.		+ or -.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Maintenance of way and works.	47,838 3 10		55,513 8 7		+ 7,675 4 9
Locomotive, carriage and wagon expenses	46,438 9 5		55,148 2 2		+ 8,709 12 9
Traffic expenses	19,746 17 0		21,603 4 0		+ 1,856 7 0
General charges	15,128 16 2		15,784 9 11		+ 655 13 9
Special expenditure	8,784 19 2		6,306 5 5		- 2,478 13 9
Steamboat service	10,313 3 4		10,092 10 3		- 220 13 1
Total Expenditure		148,260 8 11		164,448 0 4	+ 16,187 11 5
Profit	—	56,678 7 3	—	76,763 17 5	+ 20,085 10

4. The working of the railway has given satisfactory results, showing a net profit of revenue over expenditure of

£76,763 17s. 5d. and an advance on last year's revenue from £204,928 16s. 2d. to £241,211 17s. 9d. Expenditure, however, has increased by £16,197 11s. 5d., due mainly to the improvements which have been carried out. The total traffic is steadily growing.*

The receipts per train mile have decreased, owing to lower rates being charged, but in spite of this the profits per train mile and the average freight of a goods train have increased.

The local service between Mombasa and Mazaras at a reduced fare of $\frac{1}{4}d.$ instead of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per mile for natives was largely patronized. This, coupled with the fact that numbers of Wakikuyu prefer walking from Nairobi to Mombasa to paying the fare of Rs. 10 4 a. indicates the advisability of reducing the rates for natives all over the line.†

5. The labour question still continues to present serious difficulties. Until recently, skilled labour, *e.g.*, carpenters, masons, &c., as well as station masters and signallers, was easily obtainable from India; within the past year, however, partly on account of the ravages of the plague and partly on account of the increasing demand in India for this class of labour, the available supply has not been sufficient to meet the requirements of the railway.

The problem of native unskilled labour still remains unsolved, and work on the railway has in many cases been considerably hampered and retarded by the impossibility of obtaining sufficient workmen.

Notable examples of this are the Kilindini harbour extension works and the realignments between Mazaras and Mackinnon Road. Considerable progress has, nevertheless, been made in both cases.

The fuel question was also affected by the lack of labour, so much so that it was found necessary to order a large supply of coal.

It is hoped that the formation of the new Native Affairs Department will tend to mitigate this inconvenience.

6. Sanction was received towards the end of the year to the construction of a wharf at Port Florence, which will enable vessels to come alongside, and will give ample shed accommodation for handling the increasing traffic.

7. The survey of Lake Victoria was terminated during the year.

* The difference between these figures and those given under the heading of Revenue, paragraph 3 of this report, is due to the fact that the former show earnings and expenses, and the latter actual cash receipts and payments.

† Since the conclusion of the year this reduction has taken place.

8. No accidents involving loss of life or injury to passengers have occurred, and but a few minor accidents. Engine failures were of somewhat frequent occurrence, chiefly owing to bad water.

9. The most important event of the year was the completion and commissioning of the new steamer "Clement Hill" for the lake.

A cargo boat was also ordered.

The earnings of the steamer service show an increase of £4,111 5s. 2d. over those of 1905-6.

On the year's working there is a profit of 20 per cent. on the capital cost (excluding the cost of the "Clement Hill" but including that of the dry dock). As in previous years, the earnings included shipments for the Congo Government.

10. The goods receipts for the year increased by £27,049.

The upwards traffic shows an increase of 8,821 tons—25,292 to 34,113—consisting chiefly of building materials.

The rates have been reduced in respect of certain commodities, with satisfactory results, but there is little doubt that a further reduction would be beneficial, and every effort is being made towards this end.

The upward consignments are still far in excess of those "downwards," but it must be noted that the latter have advanced from 14,365 to 18,669 tons.

The lake ports are responsible for the main portion, the principal staples being ground-nuts, simsim seed, hides and skins, ghee, rubber, and copper.

A noteworthy feature is the first appearance of cotton as an export; 200 tons of this commodity were sent out of the country.

(D.) EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

1. The Restriction of Immigration Ordinance was brought into force during the year, and has proved most beneficial in keeping undesirables out of the country.

The returns show that 692 Europeans and 1,977 Indians landed in the Protectorate, and that 178 of the former and 1,046 of the latter departed.

The Indians included a number of sepoys for the King's African Rifles in Uganda, and of indentured coolies for the Uganda Railway.*

2. The Indian settlement at Kibos has given satisfactory results, sugar cane and mahindi being the chief crops. Cotton also grows well.

(E.) GAME.

The number of shooting parties which visited the country during 1906-7 showed a marked decrease; this may perhaps be ascribed to the fact that large tracks of land have been

* For work on the Mazeras realignment due to the lack of local labour previously referred to.

fenced in and cultivated by private individuals, with the result that much of the game has deserted the localities where it was formerly easily obtainable.

Another consequence of the fencing and cultivation is that lions have been driven away, resulting in a large increase in the number of zebra, which do considerable damage to crops and fences. It would now seem unnecessary to preserve this species so strictly.

The latter part of the year was unusually dry, which largely affected the distribution of the game, and has led to the idea that the game is being shot out. So far, however, from this being the case, it has been unusually numerous where grass and water have been plentiful.

A sportsman's licence, enabling him to shoot a considerable variety of heads, costs £50, and extra heads of certain species and specimens of several animals not included under the licence may be shot on payment of a fee; a settler's licence, allowing the holder to shoot a limited number of the less rare animals, costs £10; and a landholder's licence, enabling farmers to shoot on their own land, £3.

The amount of game killed in 1906-7 is as follows:—

Game.	No.	District.												
		Laikipia.	Elgt. Valley.	Atid.	Kenia.	Lake Victoria.	Uasin Gishu.	Const.	Serengeti.	Jubaland.	Sortk.	Naivasha.	Makindu.	Mau.
Elephant	48	3	24	—	7	3	3	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Rhinoceros	150	29	40	26	35	—	1	—	—	—	12	3	3	1
Hippopotamus	46	4	12	10	4	15	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Buffalo	27	3	1	2	14	1	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Giraffe	11	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Eland	73	22	17	10	13	—	1	1	—	—	6	—	—	—
Roan	45	2	2	15	3	—	2	—	—	—	10	2	4	—
Kudu (Greater)	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
" (Lesser)	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Bongo	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Wildebeest	150	—	22	63	22	—	—	—	—	—	33	6	4	—
Hartebeest (Coke's)	387	11	50	203	46	1	—	13	—	—	41	—	22	—
" (Neumann's)	36	9	22	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
" (Jackson's)	27	40	124	—	2	10	17	—	—	—	54	—	23	—
Topi	108	—	—	—	3	6	9	—	—	—	63	—	27	—
Oryx callotis	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
" beisa	74	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	13	—	—
Waterbuck (common)	152	—	—	69	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—
" (DeLassé)	187	31	96	—	—	6	8	—	—	—	31	2	—	3
Reedbuck (Bohor)	236	5	123	13	14	15	25	—	—	—	72	—	—	—
" (Chandler's)	60	2	20	29	1	0	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Thom's Cob.	14	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Gazelle (Grant's)	520	49	252	141	29	—	—	1	—	—	35	—	13	—
" (Thomson's)	649	31	304	229	49	—	—	—	—	—	34	—	2	—
" (Roberts's)	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
" (Waller's)	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Palla	404	36	205	97	37	2	3	—	—	—	21	—	3	—
Oribi (Abyssinia)	135	5	—	—	—	2	19	—	—	—	59	—	—	50
" (Kenia)	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Steinbuck	77	12	24	23	7	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	3	1
Bush Buck	123	7	34	15	20	1	7	—	—	—	23	—	1	15
Dufker	124	9	25	20	15	1	—	—	—	—	28	—	9	14
Dik Dik and Paa	73	9	25	7	15	—	3	3	—	—	9	—	4	1
Klipspringer	35	—	17	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
Sable	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zebra	102	19	36	29	14	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Colobus	63	10	20	—	7	5	5	—	—	—	11	—	—	5
Cheetah	22	3	1	10	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ostrich	28	9	8	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marabout	56	11	13	11	5	—	5	2	—	—	2	—	—	1
Total	4,573	416	1,527	1,035	478	76	125	24	—	—	613	25	88	106

(F.) RATES AND WAGES.

1. Wages for domestic servants have shown a tendency to rise owing to increasing demand, and, as reported previously, servants working temporarily for travellers and sportsmen can command a high rate of pay.

2. The cost of living has also risen in many respects. Bread has advanced from $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3d.$ a loaf, and milk from $2d.$ to $3d.$ a pint. Tea now costs $1s. 10d.$ a pound, as against $1s. 4d.$ previously, and sugar is $\frac{3}{4}d.$ a pound dearer.

The price of beef and mutton has also gone up from $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $4d.$ a pound. The average price of cattle for slaughtering purposes is £3-£5, and of horses £50, an increase on prices formerly prevailing.

3. Payment for laundry work still remains the same, but, as previously reported, the methods are most destructive, and there is little doubt that a good steam laundry would supply a much-felt want and prove extremely remunerative.

4. The supply of labour is by no means equal to the demand, though the average rate of pay remains much the same. It is hoped, as already stated, that the establishment of the Department for Native Affairs will shortly place this whole question on a more satisfactory footing.

5. The following table gives the average rates of wages obtaining:—

				Rates per month.	
				Rs.	Rs.
Domestic servants	...	...	...	10	to 30
„	„	(juvenile)	...	6	„ 12
Porters	...	...	...	6	„ 15
Cooks (Goanese)	...	...	...	40	„ 52
„	„	(Swahili)	...	20	„ 30
Kitchen boys	...	...	...	5	
Labourers (Coast)	...	...	...	10	„ 15
„	„	(Interior)	...	4	„ 8
Carpenters (Native)	...	...	...	15	„ 30
„	„	(Indian)	...	60	„ 90
Painters	...	...	...	60	

When working away from home an additional food allowance, amounting to a sum varying from Rs. 4 to Rs. 7 per month is given; porters also have to be supplied by Government regulations with blankets, water-bottles, &c.

(G.) SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

There is little to add to the remarks made on this subject in the report for 1905-6.

The tendency to make use of European products increases gradually, and it is hoped that in time it may prove strong enough to induce the native to work for longer periods than is the case at present.

The material condition of the various tribes has on the whole been good. Owing to a partial failure of the rains, scarcity prevailed in Kavirondo and Lumbwa during the early months of the year 1907, but prompt measures were taken to meet distress where it occurred, and relief works were put in hand which were of great assistance to the people in the affected districts, and ensured a supply of food until the crops sown during the rains of May, which fortunately fell in sufficient quantity, were available.

The abolition of the legal status of slavery, which was brought into effect on the 1st of October last, may have considerable results on the social life of the coast Arabs and their dependents, but it is as yet too early to appreciate them fully.

The very heavy clove harvest in Zanzibar and Pemba created a demand for labour in those islands, which was to some extent met from the Protectorate, the pay and conditions proving attractive even to tribes like the Wakamba, who are as a rule disinclined to engage themselves.

(H.) EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT.

The conditions as regards European settlement during 1906-7 differed little from those prevailing in the previous year.

On many of the farms and large holdings good work has been put in, and progress is reported. Further and valuable experience has been gained in the rearing of stock and the products best suited to the conditions of the various parts of the Protectorate.

The conditions are now easier than they were, thanks in a large measure to the efforts of the early pioneers, who made their homes in the country at a time when it was not possible to predict how their venture would turn out, and have steadily made their way, determined to succeed. Unfortunately all who followed them have not emulated their example, and there are a number of holdings where little or no development has taken place, and where the conditions of the lease will have to be enforced; absence of the requisite means has presumably been the reason, as well as too hasty an application for land before the applicant had fully determined to put in his lot with the Protectorate.

Applications for land were made in considerable numbers, but more attention was paid to the coast. Most of the land south of Mombasa had formed the subject of an application by

the Uplands of East Africa Syndicate, and the new demands were mainly for grants around Malindi, to the north. It is the prevailing opinion that the coast lands will bring in good profits from the cultivation of tropical products, such as cotton, rubber, fibre, and cocoa-nuts; but here, as elsewhere, complaints are made of the difficulty of obtaining labour.

In the Uplands attention is mainly directed to rearing stock, such as cattle, sheep, pigs, and ostriches. Lord Delamere and the East Africa Syndicate have considerable numbers of sheep, and in this respect the former has been very successful. Pigs also have a promising future, especially as the Uplands of East Africa Syndicate are about to establish a bacon factory in the Highlands. As to the ostriches, seeing that they are indigenous, there is every hope of good profit from them.

Towards the end of the year a rumour was spread abroad that a native rising was imminent. This had the undoubted effect of stopping the flow of capital. The local bank also took steps to realize from many of its customers who had been allowed to overdraw their accounts. The combined result was a depression from which the country has even now scarcely recovered. In so far as it has stopped wild speculation in land, it has done good. The country needs solid men with some capital, who are not anxious for quick returns. There is no place yet for those who wish for quick returns; and it should be carefully noted that as at present situated the Protectorate does not offer inducements to the man, working by himself, who has not enough to keep him until he can realise the fruits of his industry. As plantations and industries develop, a demand for skilled European labour in various branches will arise, but there is as yet little room for persons seeking the country on the chance of such employment.

The Highlands combine beauty of scenery with a good climate, and will necessarily attract immigrants; it is only to be hoped that the immigrants will be of a good class.

For the rest the Survey Department did much good work in both the Trigonometrical and Cadastral branches, but owing to insufficient staff the year closed with considerable arrears. These arrears have since been largely diminished, as will be apparent when the report of the current year is submitted.

The new Land Law has not yet been passed. Soon after instructions were received from the Secretary of State on the proposals submitted from this country in December, 1906, the Land Board was formed, and the opportunity was taken to ask its opinion. The members of the Board gave the subject their careful attention, and submitted proposals, which have been forwarded to the Secretary of State. The delay is not to be regretted. If European settlement is to be encouraged as it should be, it is most important that the law relating to land should be very carefully drawn up.

(I. AND J.) FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE AND OPENINGS
FOR INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL.

The results of the year augur well for the future of the trade of the Protectorate.

Both imports and exports show a satisfactory and steady increase. Practically the net trade of the Protectorate has doubled within the last four years, and considering that it only started 12 years ago, the figure of £1,057,000, representing the net trade of the Protectorate for the year, shows that rapid progress has been made.

In the total is included the trade of the neighbouring Protectorate of Uganda and the German Lake Ports, from which hitherto most of the exports are derived.

In the matter of exports East Africa is still far behind Uganda and the Lake Ports, as is evidenced by the railway and customs returns. With the attention that is now being paid to stimulating the cultivation of payable products and as our industries advance, it is to be hoped that this disparity may soon disappear.

Of the indigenous products, to which we look with the most confidence as important factors in the commercial future of the country, rubber and fibre may be considered the most important. Allusion has been made elsewhere to the activity displayed on the development of these industries; several concessions for rubber have been given out and rubber plantations have been started, whilst two of the fibre concessions are working with new machinery, and machinery has been ordered for others. Rubber will, however, have to compete against the output which is now commencing to be placed on the market from plantations in various parts of the world, and it is discouraging to note the serious fall in prices which are now quoted both for rubber and fibre. But it is hoped that rubber can be utilized for many other purposes than those to which it is at present put, and that the rubber exhibition which is to be held in London next September will help towards advertising the merits of this commodity and raising its price again to former quotations.

The experimental introduction of wool-bearing sheep promises well, the shipments of wool already made being very favourably reported on; sheep, both native and imported, thrive well in the splendid grazing areas on the Uplands, and the improvement of the indigenous breed of sheep has been attended with marked success. The cattle industry has lately had a set-back, owing to the outbreak and spread of African coast fever, but the whole country has now been put in quarantine and a preventive system introduced for controlling the movement of cattle, and these measures, together with the facilities which are being given by the Government of the

Protectorate for fencing farms, should have the effect of controlling, if not extirpating, the scourge. The improvement of the breed of indigenous cattle by crossing them with imported bulls has been extremely successful, and we look forward at no distant date to East Africa becoming a large producer of dairy produce, for which industry a large area in the highlands is eminently adapted, owing to the fact that for the greater part of the year there is a sufficient supply of green succulent herbage to maintain a full supply of milk.

There are large numbers of cattle in the possession of the various tribes, but as the natives show great reluctance in parting with their animals, the settlers find some difficulty in obtaining the number of head they require to stock their farms.

The pig industry is one to which much importance is attached; a factory is about to be started, and it is hoped that before long it will not only supply the local market, but export largely to outside markets. The Government is paying particular attention to this project, as it is one which will greatly help the smaller farmer.

Another industry which is likely to become an important asset to the country is the domestication and breeding of ostriches. There are a large number of wild birds in the Protectorate producing a feather which compares very favourably with the average feather grown in South Africa, and the Government has given permission to registered settlers to collect eggs and capture many young birds. Advantage has been taken of the concession by a good many farmers, and we have now in the pens a very fair stock of young birds.

A good many horses and mules have been imported into the country, and some of the settlers in those parts of the Uplands which are considered to be practically free from horse sickness are taking steps to form small breeding studs of horses.

Turning to the agricultural products, there should be a large opening in the supply of various kinds to the continent. Wheat also is a product of which we have hopes of producing a sufficient quantity to meet local markets and possibly create an export trade. We have now been able to introduce one or two rust-resisting varieties of this cereal, which are well adapted to the soil and climatic conditions of the Uplands.

As regards other farm products, the area under maize has been greatly extended; the demand for this foodstuff is largely on the increase by the natives, and its cultivation has been taken up both by settlers and by natives. There is no doubt that if more money were spent on the importation of selected farm seeds the returns would be greatly enhanced in value.

The collection of beeswax and of various gums from trees indigenous in the forests is receiving attention.

The cultivation of sem-sem, ground-nuts, and other oil-producing seeds is being extended. The demand for these commodities is constant at a remunerative price, the natives are being taught everywhere the advantages of growing such products as these, and are responding satisfactorily to the efforts of the Government to develop remunerative tropical products. Of these, cotton may be looked upon as one of very great importance.

Of late years the disadvantages attached to the dependence of the Lancashire spinners on the United States for their raw material have become increasingly apparent, and the development of the cultivation of cotton on British soil may be now regarded as part of our accepted colonial policy. In the East Africa Protectorate there are large areas of country, particularly on the coast and in the lake districts, admirably adapted for the exploitation of this industry, which is being rapidly taken up by syndicates and settlers, and, in addition, vigorous efforts are being made to induce the natives to undertake its cultivation. Experiments are being conducted in various districts to compare the various merits of the different varieties of cotton. These experiments are being carefully watched by those interested in the development of the industry, and are being particularly undertaken and fostered by the representatives of the British Cotton Growing Association. Special attention is being paid to the importation of only sound, reliable seeds; measures are under discussion with a view to maintaining a high standard of output.

As far as imports are concerned it is to be regretted that Germany and America have secured a very large share of the market for cheap goods sold to natives, but it is understood that the British manufacturer considers this trade unremunerative, the raw African being unable to appreciate and pay an extra price for a reliable article in preference to a shoddy one.

The imports for European colonists are increasing, particularly building materials, implements, and machinery and tinned provisions.

One of the greatest needs of the Protectorate is a direct British service with the United Kingdom at regular intervals by vessels of reasonable speed. It might not at first be remunerative, but if our hopes for the development of the Protectorate are realized, it ought eventually to be run on a paying basis.

Certain minor enterprises which have been alluded to in previous reports, such as hotels and laundries, if efficiently managed, would probably be successful, more particularly now that the facilities afforded by the Uganda Railway are becoming more widely known and are bringing an ever-increasing stream of tourists and sportsmen into the country.

APPENDIX.

LAND, INDUSTRIAL, AND MINING CONCESSIONS GRANTED LOCALLY.

Return for half year ended 31st December, 1906.

SEYIDIE PROVINCE.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
A. G. Turnbull ...	Agricultural: 160 acres ...	Mazeras ...	24.2.04	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 320	Registered—12.10.06.
Do. ...	480 acres ...	Do. ...	Do.	Pre-empted	Price, Rs. 960	Do.
Pattison and Tattersall...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Bura ...	7.2.04	Free	grant.	13.11.06.

UKAMBA PROVINCE.

R. E. Hale ...	Grazing, 1,009 acres ...	Nairobi River ...	7.2.04	99 years, 1.1.05 ...	Annual, Rs. 31 10s.	22.1.06.
L. Negler ...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Karura ...	29.5.03	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.
W. E. Small ...	Grazing, 986 acres ...	Nairobi ...	—	99 years, 1.1.05 ...	Annual, Rs. 30 13s.	Do.
P. W. Redford ...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Kiambu ...	—	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,280	15.2.06.
C. Hirtzel ...	Building, 10 acres	Nairobi ...	—	25 years, 5.10.05 ...	Annual, Rs. 30	6.3.06.
Miss Williams ...	Building, 2 acres	Do. ...	23.3.04	25 years, 1.3.06 ...	Rs. 72 ...	Do.
S. Milne ...	Agricultural, 380 acres	Kiambu ...	—	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 760	2.5.06.
Do. ...	Grazing: 620 acres ...	Do. ...	—	Freehold ...	Rs. 620 ...	Do.
Do. ...	3,000 acres ...	Do. ...	—	99 years, from 1.1.05	Annual, Rs 93 12s.	Do.
S. J. Deaks ...	Agricultural: 640 acres ...	Limoru ...	—	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.

S. J. Decks	Agricultural : 640 acres	Limuru ...	...	99 years, 1.1.04	Annual, Rs. 100	3.5.06.
H. H. Edgell...	Building, 10 acres	Parklands	...	25 years, 1.4.04	Annual, Rs. 80	10.5.06.
F. W. Taylor	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Kisaraiu	...	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,000	24.7.06.
J. Sharpe	Agricultural, 640 acres	Kikuyu	...	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 2,560	21.7.06.
M. Duirs	Agricultural, 645 acres	Limuru	...	Do.	Price, Rs. 1,290	30.8.06.
D. P. Dairs	Agricultural, 447 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Price, Rs. 896	Do.
D. F. Hall	Agricultural, 642 acres	Do.	...	15.6.04	Price, Rs. 2,568	3.9.06.
A. Rainbow	Agricultural, 661 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Price, Rs. 2,644	Do.
A. D. Impey	Agricultural, 660 acres	Do.	...	25.4.04	Price, Rs. 1,320	Do.
A. Cruickshank	Building, 10 acres	Nairobi	...	25 years, 1.9.04	Annual, Rs. 80	Do.
C. Hirtzel	Building, 2 acres	Do.	...	25 years, f. 1.6.06	Annual, Rs. 72	Do.
T. C. Hinds	Building, 5 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Annual, Rs. 15	5.9.06.
A. Visram	Building, 1 plot	Do.	...	25 years, f. 28.10.39	Annual, Rs. 240	21.9.06.
R. R. Huebner	Fibre, 32,430 acres	Kibwezi	...	11 years, 1.1.04	Annual, Rs. 320	25.9.06.
G. W. Cahne	Agricultural, 2,033 acres	Limuru	...	99 years, 1.1.06	Annual, Rs. 315	Do.
M. M. D'Souza	Grazing, 100 acres	Kiambu	...	99 years, 1.9.06	Annual, Rs. 3	1.10.06.
Do.	Building, 150 acres	Nairobi	...	99 years, 1.1.06	Annual, Rs. 15	2.10.06.
Mrs. Adams	Agricultural, 640 acres	Kiambu	...	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,280	5.10.06.
E. G. Hale	Grazing, 1,006 acres	Nairobi River	...	99 years, 1.1.06	Annual rent,	Do.
Do.	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi	...	25 years, 1.1.06	Rs. 62 1/4a.	25.10.06.
B. M. Davis	Building, 4.18 acres	Do.	...	25 years, 1.11.04	Rs. 24.	29.11.06.
Mrs. S. Elliot	Building, 75 ft. by 50 ft.	Do.	...	25 years, f. 1.4.06	Annual rent,	23.8.06.
J. S. Hall	Agricultural, 639 acres	Kiambu	...	Homestead...	Rs. 36.	Do.
W. J. King	Grazing, 995 acres	Mbagathi	...	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,278	28.8.06.
S. Haller and L. Sorui	Agricultural, 685 acres	Limuru	...	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,990	Do.
J. Grace	Building, 4,498 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi	...	99 years, f. 1.3.06	Annual, Rs. 48	Do.
F. R. Findlay	Residential, 53 acres	Parklands	...	25 years, 1.3.06	Annual, Rs. 15	Do.
J. H. L. Findlay	Residential, 53 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.
Holman James	Building, 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi	...	25 years, 1.6.06	Annual, Rs. 48	30.8.06.
M. Abdulla Shah	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	25 years, f. 1.4.06	Annual, Rs. 36	Do.

UKAMBA PROVINCE—continued.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
Limoru Steam Saw Mills Co.	Forest, 640 acres	Limoru ...	4.1.05	5 years' lease, from 1.9.05.	Annual rent, Rs. 20.	Registered—14.7.06.
Johnson and Cameron ...	Building, 1 plot	Nairobi ...	5.10.04	99 years, f. 1.1.05 ...	Annual, Rs. 24	24.7.06.
Moolchand Dhowan ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	11.1.05	25 years, 1.3.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 36	Do.
Chirag Din ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	5.11.04	Do. ...	Do.	9.8.06.
Miss I. Harries ...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Chania ...	8.5.04	99 years, 1.1.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 156 ^{4a} .	Do.
H. H. Cowie ...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do. ...	Do.	Do. ...	Do.	Do.
W. A. Crawford ...	Agricultural: 160 acres	Do. ...	27.6.04	Homestead ...	Price, Rs. 320	Do.
Do.	375 acres	Limoru ...	Do.	Pre-empted ...	Price, Rs. 750	Do.
Nooralji Dhanji ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	23.8.04	99 years, 1.11.05 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Do.
C. M'ua'leny & Son	Building: 100 ft. by 75 ft.	Do. ...	8.11.04	99 years, 1.3.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 120.	23.8.06.
Do.	3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	23.8.03	99 years, 1.10.05 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 90.	Do.
W. A. Gani	Building: 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	23.11.04	25 years, f. 1.3.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 36	30.8.06.
Do.	3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	Do.	Do. ...	Do.	Do.
H. Binks ...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Karua ...	29.4.04	Homestead ...	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.
Suliman Virgi & Sons ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	3.1.05	25 years, f. 1.3.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 p.a.	Do.
Viscount J. de Kergeriau	Agricultural, 640 acres	Limoru ...	6.3.04	Home-lead ...	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.
H. G. Cullinan ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	2.6.05	25 years, f. 1.4.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 p.a.	Do.
H. C. Lydford and Jevors	Agricultural, 642 acres	Limoru ...	15.6.04	Homestead ...	Price, Rs. 2,468	3.9.06.
H. G. Cullinan ...	Agricultural, 660 acres	Do. ...	Do.	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 1,320	Do.
Harris, Lewis and Godwin, Ltd.	Building, 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	21.8.05	25 years, 2.3.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 48	Do.
M. G. Mohyidin ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	5.11.04	23 years, 1.5.05 ...	Annual, Rs. 36	Do.

M. M. D'Souza	...	Building, 4,200 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi	...	10.4.05	99 years, 1.5.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 36	3.9.06.
Souza Junior and Dias	...	Building, 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	Do.	99 years, 1.7.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 120	Do.
J. R. Stocker	...	Residential, 4 acres ...	Nairobi Hill	...	21.1.05	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 16 ...	Do.
£. Harries	...	Grazing, 4,047 acres ...	N'daruga	...	11.4.05	99 years' lease from 1.1.06	Annual rent, Rs. 126 8a.	Do.
Hashambhai Jan Mohamed.	...	Building, 9,320 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi	...	11.6.04	50 years, 1.9.04 ...	Rs. 84 ...	Do.
R. C. Langmore	...	Agricultural, 505 acres	Limuru	...	Do.	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,010	Do.
R. W. V. Bunbury	...	Grazing, 4,500 acres ...	Doniyo Sabuk	...	24.2.05	99 years, 1.7.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 140 10a.	Do.
H. H. Tarlton	...	Building, 15 acres ...	Nairobi	...	Do.	25 years, 1.1.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 45	Do.
C. Watkins	...	Building: 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	8.6.05	25 years, 1.7.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 48	Do.
Do.	...	Building: 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Times of East A.P. and F. Co., Ltd.	...	Building: 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	23.8.05	25 years, 1.3.06 ...	Do.	Do.
Do.	...	Building: 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
S. Haller	...	Building: 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	22.6.05	25 years, 1.5.06 ...	Do.	Do.
Do.	...	Building: 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
J. H. Cross	...	Building, 1,836 acre ...	Do.	...	26.5.04	25 years, f. 1.8.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 15	Do.
F. M. J. D'Souza	...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	Do.	50 years, f. 1.7.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 90	17.9.06.
Holman James	...	Building, 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Do.	...	6.6.05	25 years, f. 1.6.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 48	5.9.06.
P. A. Bennett	...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Reweru and Makuyu River.	...	18.6.04	Home-lead ...	Price, Rs. 1,380	25.9.06.
Do.	...	Grazing, 1,659 acres ...	Do.	...	Do.	99 years' lease, 1.8.04	Annual rent: Rs. 51 1 1/2a.	Do.
Miss M. Ingram	...	Building, 5 acres	Nairobi	...	14.8.04	Freehold ...	Rs. 20 ...	Do.
G. M. Johnson	...	Agricultural, 638 acres	Limuru	...	15.8.04	Home-lead ...	Rs. 2,532	Do.
W. Sulski	...	Agricultural, 660 acres	Do.	...	5.4.04	Do.	Rs. 1,320	Do.
F. W. Krieger	...	Agricultural, 639 acres	Kiamboi	...	Do.	Do.	Rs. 1,276	Do.
Mrs. A. Peni	...	Building, Plot No. 31 ...	Nairobi	...	11.9.05	25 years, f. 1.7.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 48	27.9.06.
W. Latham	...	Residential, 4.62 acres...	Parklands	...	24.6.04	25 years, 1.9.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 15	5.10.06.
G. R. Palmer	...	Building, 2 acres	Nairobi	...	2.9.04	99 years, 1.9.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 15	8.10.06.
A. R. D'Souza	...	Building, 1 acre	Do.	...	28.8.04	99 years, 1.10.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 7 8a	12.10.06.

UKAMBA PROVINCE—continued.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
Shia Asanahry Community.	Burial, 22,500 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	28.7.05	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 60 ...	Registered— 25.10.06.
Henry Tarlton	Grazing : 557 acres ...	Kasarani ...	5.5.04	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 557 ...	19.11.06.
Do.	3,620 acres ...	Do. ...	Do.	99 years, 1.11.04 ...	Annual Rs. 113 ...	25.11.06.
Do.	4,443 acres ...	Do. ...	Do.	Do. ...	Annual Rs. 138 ...	12.12.06.
J. Grant and S. Fichat	Residential, 2·88 acres ...	Parklands ...	14.7.06	25 years, 1.8.06 ...	Annual Rs. 9 ...	25.10.06.
A. C. Pirie	Agricultural, 637 acres ...	Limoru ...	6.3.04	Homestead ...	Price, Rs. 1,274 ...	Do.
B. C. Langmore	Building, 5 acres ...	Parklands ...	29.7.05	25 years, 1.9.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 15 p.a. ...	Do.
E. Hargenson	Building, 5,000 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	28.8.05	25 years, 1.4.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 48 ...	19.11.06.
T. Skellorn	Grazing, 2,234 acres ...	Thata River ...	30.3.05	99 years, 1.9.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 69 8a. ...	29.11.06.
J. Skellorn	Grazing, 1,000 acres ...	Do. ...	23.10.04	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 1,000 ...	Do.
T. Deacon	Grazing, 3,000 acres ...	Athi River ...	1.2.05	99 years, 1.5.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 187 ...	Do.
Do.	Grazing : 194 acres ...	Thata River ...	30.3.05	99 years, 1.9.06 ...	8a. p.a. Rent, Rs. 6 1 a. ...	Do.
J. Skellorn, Junior	1,000 acres ...	Do. ...	24.9.04	Freehold ...	Rs. 1,000 ...	Do.
Do.	Grazing : 1,000 acres ...	Do. ...	9.9.04	Do. ...	Rs. 1,000 ...	Do.
Do.	3,571 acres ...	Do. ...	Do.	99 years, 1.7.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 111 ...	Do.
Guy Tulloch	Building, 371 acres ...	Nairobi Hill ...	21.6.05	Freehold ...	10a. p.a. Price, Rs. 16 ...	Do.
Gailey and Roberts	Building, 150 ft. by 190 ft. ...	Nairobi ...	Do.	25 years, f. 1.9.04 ...	Rent, Rs. 86 8a. ...	Do.
Arya Sanaj	Temple, 100 ft. by 56 ft. ...	Do. ...	Do.	50 years, f. 1.8.04 ...	p.a. Rent, Rs. 48 ...	12.12.06.
L. J. Tarlton	Building, 17,500 sq. ft. ...	Do. ...	—	25 years, f. 1.8.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 168 ...	Do.

NAIVASHA PROVINCE.

A. J. Frew	...	Building, 1 acre	Nakuru ...	...	22.2.05	25 years f 1.9.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 p.a.	18.7.06.
J. J. Drought	...	Grazing : 1,000 acres	Molo ...	...	13.9.04	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 1,000	Do.
Do.	...	4,000 acres	Do. ...	...	Do.	99 years, f 1.1.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 125 p.a.	Do.
F. E. Doering	...	Grazing, 25,000 acres	Gilgil and Naivasha	...	6.9.04	99 years, f 1.12.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 1,562 8a. p.a.	21.2.04.
E. J. Cocker	...	Building, 1 acre	Nakuru ...	...	16.11.04	99 years, f 1.4.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 ...	22.8.06.
F. and H. Watkins	...	Grazing, 10,084 acres	Oboogonotho River	...	23.9.05	99 years, f 1.7.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 315 2a.	Do.
F. R. Findlay	...	Grazing, 10,119 acres	Segeri River	...	2.8.04	99 years, f 5.7.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 316 4a.	Do.
Mrs. I. James	...	Building, 1 acre (24)	Nakuru ...	...	6.6.05	27 years, f 1.9.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 ...	13.9.06.
Holman James	...	Building, 1 acre (23)	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
A. S. Fleumer	...	1 acre (11)	Do.	...	3.2.05	25 years, f 1.6.06 ...	Do.	14.9.06.
Reginald Holmes	...	Grazing : 1,000 acres	Meroroni River...	...	17.6.04	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 2,000	Do.
Do.	...	4,000 acres	Ngosur River	...	Do.	99 years, f 1.6.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 250 p.a.	Do.
Miss E. M. Johnson	...	Building, 1 acre	Nakuru ...	...	9.2.05	25 years, f 1.9.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 p.a.	12.10.06.
Miss V. E. Johnson	...	Building, 1 acre	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
G. M. Johnson	...	Building, 1 acre	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
G. G. Palmer	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Molo ...	...	26.10.04	99 years, f 1.9.05 ...	Rent, Rs. 156 4a. p.a.	3.11.06.
J. J. Togood	...	Building, 1 acre	Nakuru ...	...	7.12.04	25 years, f 1.7.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 36 ...	Do.
A. Zarge	...	Grazing, 3,348 acres	Molo ..	...	16.6.05	99 years, f 1.11.06 ...	Rent, Rs. 209 4a.	480 acres within railway zone. Registered—
C. Grant and J. Coryell	...	Grazing, 10,000 acres	Eldama Ravine...	...	8.1.04	99 years, f 1.5.04 ...	Rent, Rs. 312 8a.	17.12.06.
W. Brittlebank	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	13.3.04	99 years, f 1.4.06 ...	Do.	19.12.06.
								27.12.06.

KISUMU PROVINCE.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
H. E. Watts	Grazing : 3,990 acres	Lumbwa...	6.5.04	99 years, 1.1.06	Rent, Rs. 124 11a. p.a.	Within railway zone : 633 acres.
Do.	1,000 acres	Do.	Do.	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,000	160 acres. Registered— 25.9.06.
E. Edwards, S. Neilson and Mrs. Bartlett.	Grazing : 4,000 acres	Man Escarpment	—	99 years, f. 1.4.05	Annual, Rs. 125	Registered— 25.9.06.
Do.	1,000 acres	Do.	28.7.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,000	Do.
J. M. Drury	Grazing : 3,974 acres	Do.	26.7.05	99 years, f. 1.6.06	Annual rent, Rs. 124 8a.	Do.
Do.	1,000 acres	Do.	Do.	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,000	Do.

KENYA, TANALAND, AND JUBALAND PROVINCES.

Nil.

LAND, INDUSTRIAL AND MINING CONCESSIONS GRANTED LOCALLY.

Return for half year ended 30th June, 1907.

SEYIDIE PROVINCE.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
U. B. Patel	Agricultural: 196 acres	Mazeras	28.12.05	Lease 99 years from 1.8.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 60.	Registered—16.1.07.
Do.	640 acres	Do.	7.4.04	Free	Grant.	Do.
Industrial Mission Aid Society.	Mission, 1,288 acres	Dabida Fretetown	11.12.03	Free	Grant.	24.12.06.
Holtman James	Fibre, 100 square miles	Between Tsaro and Voi	29.6.05	25 years' lease from 1.3.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 1,500.	8.1.07.
H. H. Cowie	Do.	Do.	7.7.05	Do.	Do.	Do.
J. E. Jones	Cotton, 10,000 acres	Sabaki River	10.12.05	3 years, f. 1.3.06	Free of rent	10.1.07.
Abdul Husain	Agricultural, 640 acres	Mazeras	7.4.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,280	22.2.07.
Roman Catholic Mission	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Bura	4.7.05	Freehold	Rs. 1,000	29.3.07.
M. McJohn	Building, 15,050 sq. ft.	Mombasa	6.7.05	99 years' lease from 1.3.07.	Annual, Rs. 150 for first year, and Rs. 180 for succeeding years.	24.6.07.

UKAMBA PROVINCE.

W. Thompson	Residential, 10 acres	Katusura	12.7.05	Freehold	Price, Rs. 40	3.1.07.
J. R. Grewer	Agricultural, 438 acres	Limoru	12.7.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,752	Do.
Holy Family Catholic Church.	Building, 4,002 acres	Nairobi	7.5.04	Lease 99 years from 1.1.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 5.	Do.

UKAMBA PROVINCE—continued.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
P. A. de Andradas	Building, 5 acres	Nairobi	2.11.04	25 years, from 1.11.06	Annual rent, Rs. 37 8s.	Registered—3.1.07.
R. H. Fawkes	Agricultural, 640 acres	Kiambu	22.1.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.
G. E. Ramsay	Building, 5 acres	Ngong Road	23.3.04	Do.	Price, Rs. 20	Do.
C. Watkins	Grazing, 1,000 acres	M'bagathi	20.6.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 2,000	Do.
J. Walsh	Agricultural, 12 acres	Katsura	14.12.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 48	Do.
G. T. Woods	Agricultural, 758 acres	Limoru	24.6.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 3,032	Do.
Mrs. Hovitt	Building, 5 acres	Ngong Road	30.10.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 20	7.1.07.
D. J. Groves	Agricultural, 661 acres	Limoru	15.4.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,322	8.1.07.
M. H. Keil	Agricultural, 460 acres	Do.	26.1.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 1,840	12.07.
A. H. Fernandez	Residential, 10 acres	Katsura	2.6.06	Freehold	Price, Rs. 40	Do.
T. Kendrick	Agricultural, 616 acres	Kiambu	12.2.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,232	Do.
S. Watt	Agricultural, 100 acres	Machakos	22.3.06	Freehold	Price, Rs. 290	Conversion of leasehold area. Registered—1.2.07.
E. J. Cocker	Building, 3,750 sq. ft.	Nairobi	16.11.04	25 years' lease from 1.9.05	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Registered—1.2.07.
Mrs. A. O. Thompson	Residential, 10 acres	Katsura	12.7.05	Freehold	Rs. 40	Do.
E. J. Cocker	Building, 3,750 sq. ft.	Nairobi	16.11.04	25 years' lease from 1.9.05	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Do.
R. B. L. Premji & Co.	Agricultural, 160 acres	Makindu	27.7.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 320	14.2.07.
V. Sandford	Residential, 5 acres	Ngong Road	9.10.04	Do.	Price, Rs. 20	Do.
J. E. Turner	Building, 3.71 acres	Do.	4.7.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 16	Do.
Cutchi and Gujarati Hindu Community.	Crematorium, 1 acre	Nairobi	25.1.06	Do.	Price, Rs. 60	Do.
Mrs. M. S. Elliot	Building, 5 acres	Ngong Road	3.1.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 20	Do.
Mrs. M. Bent	Agricultural, 177.62 acres	Fort Smith	29.6.03	99 years' lease from 1.7.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 30	Do.

Masters and Wardens of Lodges Harmony and Scotia.	Building, 2 acres	Nairobi ...	...	9.10.05	99 years' lease from 1.9.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 72.	Do.
C. R. Watson and E. Lushington.	Agricultural, 329.84 acres	Limoru ...	...	20.9.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 1,320	Do.
Ngaraja Rama ...	Shamba, 10 acres	Machakos	...	25.2.05	10 years' lease from 1.1.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 40.	16.2.07.
Naragu Kadmi ...	Agricultural, 2½ acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 15.	Do.
Amichand ...	Agricultural, 8 acres	Do.	...	22.2.05	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Do.
Puran Kisi ...	Agricultural, 5 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 22 8a.	Do.
Gangaram ...	Agricultural, 2 acres	Do.	...	28.3.06	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 15.	Do.
A. B. Dicks ...	Agricultural, 645 acres	Limoru ...	...	18.4.04	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,290	7.3.07.
H. B. Dunman ...	Building, 3.41 acres	Nairobi Hill	...	1.2.05	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 16 ...	Do.
P. C. Filios and F. R. Vincent.	Building, 7,500 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	...	20.6.04	25 years' lease from 1.2.07.	Annual, Rs. 120	Do.
Praschkauer & Co. Memorial Industrial School.	Agricultural, 684 acres Mission, 2½ sq. miles	Limoru ... Kijabi	...	25.4.04 —	Homestead... 5 years' lease from 1.5.06.	Price, Rs. 1,368 Annual, Rs. 240	Do. Do.
H. W. Buckland...	Fibre, 50 sq. miles	Darajani River ...	...	1.12.05	25 years' lease from 1.1.07.	Annual, Rs. 750	Do.
H. B. Dooner ...	Fibre, 50 sq. miles	Do.	...	30.11.05	Do.	Do.	Do.
Mohamed Husain ...	Agricultural, 160 acres	Makindu	...	9.9.04	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 320	13.3.07.
F. X. Monteiro ...	Residential, 11.17 acres	Katsura...	...	5.5.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 49 ...	2.4.07.
A. Johanßen ...	Agricultural, 659 acres	Limoru ...	...	16.3.04	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,318	Do.
J. Boyes ...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Kiambu ...	...	9.2.04	Do.	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.
A. Gulöwren ...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Limoru ...	...	16.3.04	Do.	Do.	Do.
R. A. Wiccarls ...	Grazing, 10,000 acres	Simba ...	...	7.4.04	Lease 99 years from 1.1.07.	Annual, Rs. 312 8a.	15.4.07.
R. M. Heron ...	Grazing, 10,000 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
W. H. Heard ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	...	9.1.05	25 years, f. 1.11.06...	Annual, Rs. 36	Do.
R. E. L. Premji & Co.	Agricultural, 640 acres	Makindu	...	27.7.04	Free	Grant.	Do.

UKAMBA PROVINCE—continued.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
R. Mainetzhagen	Building, 10 acres	Nairobi Hill	13.4.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 20 ...	Registered—15.4.07.
A. Seston-Winton	Building, 5 acres	Do.	14.2.06	Do.	Do.	Do.
H. H. Lewis	Agricultural, 10·87 acres	Katsura	18.9.03	Do.	Price, Rs. 44 ...	2.5.07.
L. J. Harris	Building, 5 acres	Do.	Do.	Do.	Price, Rs. 40 ...	Do.
H. Stewart	Building, 2 acres	Nairobi Hill	22.3.06	Do.	Price, Rs. 20 ...	3.5.07.
G. G. Longden	Building, 2 acres	Do.	12.5.04	25 years, f. 1.3.07 ...	Annual, Rs. 72	Do.
Mrs. L. H. Longden	Building, 2 acres	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
J. C. Bailie	Building, 4·07 acres	Parklands	10.9.04	25 years, f. 1.11.04...	Annual, Rs. 12	Do.
J. Skellorn, Sent.	Building, 5 acres	Nairobi	30.10.03	Freehold	Price, Rs. 20 ...	Do.
F. Skellorn	Building, 5 acres	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
T. Skellorn	Building, 5 acres	Do.	26.9.04	Do.	Do.	Do.
C. Chambers	Building, 5 acres	Do.	19.6.05	Do.	Do.	Do.
J. Mackinnon	Building, 5 acres	Do.	21.1.05	Do.	Do.	Do.
H. Fein	Building:					
	75 ft. by 56 ft.	Do.	20.9.05	25 years' lease from 1.2.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Do.
Do.	75 ft. by 56 ft.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
W. A. Burn	Building, 5 acres	Ngong Road	20.7.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 20 ...	Do.
L. J. Tarlton	Building, 5·2 acres	Do.	—	Do.	Price, Rs. 24 ...	Do.
P. A. Bennett	Building, 5 acres	Do.	8.5.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 20 ...	10.6.07.
C. A. W. Schwartzel	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Beweru River	11.12.05	99 years' lease from 1.1.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 156 4a.	Do.
W. Marlow	Grazing, 5,000 acres	N'darugu River	29.12.04	Do.	Do.	Do.
J. Pavard...	Residential, 9·59 acres...	Katsura...	29.8.05	Freehold	Price, Rs. 40 ...	Do.
S. Ellis	Building, 4·651 acres	Parklands	7.9.04	25 years' lease from 1.12.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 15.	Do.
W. H. Heard	Building, 4·40 acres	Do.	9.1.05	25 years, f. 1.3.07 ...	Do.	Do.

NAIVASHA PROVINCE.

A. I. Harries	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	9.8.04	Lease 99 years, from 1.4.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 312 8a.	23.1.07.
C. L. R. Harries	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
G. M. Harvey	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	16.5.05	Lease 99 years from 1.6.06.	Do.	Do.
N. J. Hitchings	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	17.3.05	99 years, f. 1.5.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 156 4a.	9.2.07.
A. H. James	...	Grazing, 1,350 acres	Ngosour River	...	22.1.06	99 years, f. 1.8.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 84 6a.	25.2.07.
C. G. Palmer	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	17.9.04	99 years, f. 1.4.05 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 156 4a.	20.3.07.
D. Hackley	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	26.5.05	99 years, f. 1.6.06 ...	Do.	Do.
Mrs. S. A. Ocker	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	8.4.05	99 years, f. 1.5.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 312 8a.	Do.
A. D. Rump	...	Grazing, 2,659 acres	Do.	...	29.4.05	99 years, f. 1.6.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 166 3a.	Do.
H. A. Walmsly	...	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Naivasha Lake	...	23.9.04	Lease 99 years from 1.7.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 62 8a.	Do.
R. Stanley	...	Grazing, 10,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	8.5.05	99 years, f. 1.12.06	Annual rent, Rs. 625.	30.3.07.
J. Rostron and B. Wills.	B.	Building, 15,000 sq. ft.	Naivasha	...	14.7.06	25 years, f. 1.8.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 45.	Do.
O. J. Edwards	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	23.8.04	99 years, f. 1.4.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 156 4a.	Do.
R. B. Wills	...	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Do.	...	—	Freehold	Price, Rs. 2,000	Do.
F. C. Hobson	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	21.3.04	99 years, f. 1.4.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 156 4a.	Do.
A. E. Atkinson	...	Grazing, 10,000 acres	Molo	...	14.3.04	99 years, f. 1.11.04	Annual, Rs. 312 8a.	18.4.07
A. S. Flemmer	...	Grazing, 18,000 acres	Elmenteita Lake	...	30.7.03	99 years, f. 1.9.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 562 8a.	23.4.07.
D. Goldburg	...	Grazing, 2,965 acres	Molo River	...	21.3.04	99 years, f. 1.5.04 ...	Annual, Rs. 92 11a.	30.4.07.

NAIVASHA PROVINCE—*continued.*

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
Rawchand, Dayalal & Co.	Building, 15,000 sq. ft.	Naivasha	14.9.04	50 years, f. 1.1.07 ...	Annual, Rs. 45	Registered—
J. C. Bailie	Grazing, 9,910 acres ...	Segeri River	2.8.04	99 years, f. 1.4.07 ...	Annual, Rs. 309 11a.	6.5.07. 20.5.07.
G. G. Longden	Grazing, 5,000 acres ...	Rift Valley	20.9.04	99 years, f. 1.12.06	Annual, Rs. 312 8a.	Do.
Lord Hindlip	Grazing, 9,000 acres ...	Njoro River	7.11.04	Do.	Annual, Rs. 562 8a.	21.5.07.
Do.	1,000 acres ...	Do.	Do.	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 2,936 8a.	Do.
Lady Hindlip	Grazing, 1,000 acres ...	Do.	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.12.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 62 8a.	Do.
Do.	2,000 acres ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 125.	Do.
Do.	3,305 acres ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 206 9a.	Do.
Do.	1,000 acres ...	Do.	Do.	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 2,960	Do.
W. Clarke	Grazing, 5,098 acres ...	Rongai River	2.8.04	99 years, f. 1.4.07 ...	Annual, Rs. 159 5a.	21.6.07.
H. C. Bailie	Grazing, 5,011 acres ...	Do.	Do.	Do.	Annual, Rs. 156 10a.	Do.
KISUMU PROVINCE.						
A. Seaton Winton	Grazing, 1,000 acres ...	S.W. Slopes of Mau Escarpment.	13.2.06	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 2,000	25.1.07.
Major J. Penny	Grazing, 1,000 acres ...	Do.	1.11.05	Do.	Price, Rs. 1,000	1.2.2.07
Do.	4,000 acres ...	Do.	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.12.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 125.	Do.

A. Seaton Winton	...	Grazing, 3,996 acres	...	Do.	13.2.06	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 249 12s.	28.2.07.
P. H. Clarke	...	Agricultural, acres.	109.09	Kisumu	...	Freehold	Price, Rs. 220	Do.
Kharkaram	...	Agricultural, 100 acres	...	Kibos	17.5.04	Do.	Price, Rs. 200	Do.
Hartram Prob Dial & Co.	...	Do.	...	Do.	20.5.04	Do.	Do.	Do.
E. J. Cocker	...	Grazing: 3,814 acres	...	Lumbwa	16.9.04	99 years' lease from 1.4.05.	Annual rent, Rs. 238 6s.	26.3.07.
Do.	...	1 000 acres	...	Do.	Do.	Freehold	Price, Rs. 2,000	Do.
Friends Africa Industrial Mission.	...	Mission, 52.14 acres	...	Lirhandanda Station	14.8.06	Do.	Price, Rs. 106	10.4.07.
KENYA PROVINCE.								
E. Ridout...	...	Agricultural, 650 acres	...	Maragua River...	23.2.05	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,300	18.1.07.
J. F. Finnie	...	Agricultural, 326 acres	...	Do.	10.7.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 652	11.6.07.

LAND, INDUSTRIAL, AND MINING CONCESSIONS GRANTED LOCALLY.

Return for half year ended 31st December, 1907.

SEYIDIE PROVINCE.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
R. J. P. Huebner	Fibre, 35 sq. miles	Near Voi	9.11.04	25 years' lease from 1.9.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 525.	Registered—25.9.07.
Ali bin Salim	Building, 425.68 sq. ft.	Mombasa	—	Freehold	Free of cost	2.10.07.
G. J. Hunt	Agricultural, 160 acres	Shimba	10.9.06	Homestead	Price, Rs. 320	27.12.07.
UKAMBA PROVINCE.						
H. G. Cullinan	Building : 3,750 sq. ft.	Nairobi	8.12.05	25 years' lease from 1.11.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	5.7.07.
Do.	3,750 sq. ft.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
D. O. Robertis	Residential, 2.83 acres	Parklands	14.7.06	25 years, f. 1.8.06	Annual rent, Rs. 9.	12.7.07.
C. Watkins	Building, 5.5 acres	Nairobi Hill	30.5.05	Freehold	Price, Rs. 24	Do.
F. E. Doering	Building, 5 acres	Ngongo Road	14.8.04	Do.	Price, Rs. 20	Do.
Nairobi Electric P. & L. Company.	Building, 10.050 acres	Ngara Road	21.3.04	25 years' lease from 1.4.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 33.	31.7.07.
Nairobi Club	Building, 14.2 acres	Nairobi Hill	16.5.04	25 years, f. 1.1.03	Annual rent, Rs. 225.	13.8.07.
J. A. Ribeyro	Agricultural, 160 acres	Kiu	22.10.04	Homestead	Price, Rs. 640	Do.
G. S. Morrison	Building, 5 acres	Ngongo Road	17.6.05	Freehold	Price, Rs. 20	Do.

R. C. Muirhead ...	Building, 3·67 acres ...	Parklands ...	26·4·06	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 16 ...	Reversion leasehold. Registered— 15.8.07. Registered— 4.9.07. Do. Do. Do. Do. 20.9.07. Do. 26.9.07. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do. 7.10.07. 17.10.07. 24.10.07. Do. Do. Do. 25.10.07.
J. C. Lens	Grazing, 1,000 acres ...	Lunkonia ...	21.6.06	99 years' lease from 1.2.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 31 25c.	
J. Walsh ...	Grazing, 1003·7 acres ...	Ngongo River ...	24.12.06	99 years, f. 1.7.07...	Rs. 62 75c	
Joseph de Souza	Agricultural, 640 acres ...	Makindu ...	26.4.04	Free	grant.	Do.
Mrs. A. Ingram	Grazing, 600 acres ...	Nairobi River ...	23.11.06	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 600	Do.
O. Tonks ...	Building, 5 acres ...	Nairobi Hill ...	7.3.05	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 20 ...	Do.
Smith Mackenzie & Co. ...	Agricultural: 12·04 acres ...	Rewaia and Ngara River	20.4.05	Free	grant.	20.9.07.
Do.	137·40 acres ...	Nairobi River ...	Do.	Do. ...	Do.	Do.
F. A. Mageean	Agricultural, 11·5 acres	Katisura River ...	14.12.05	Do. ...	Price Rs. 48 ...	26.9.07.
H. B. Dooner	Grazing: 1,000 acres ...	Kedong Valley ...	5.6.05	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 1,000	Do.
Do.	4,000 acres ...	Do.	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.6.06.	Annual rent, Rs. 250.	Do.
E. W. Kay-Monat	Building, 4,200 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	6.6.05	25 years, f. 1.3.06 ...	Rs. 36 ...	Do.
H. Fein ...	Grazing, 4,684 acres ...	Ndarugu River ...	22.10.06	99 years, f. 1.11.06	Rs. 146 37c ...	Do.
E. W. McBady	Agricultural, 180 acres	Reru River ...	21.3.04	Freehold ...	Price Rs. 320...	Do.
Suliman Virji & Sons	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	29.10.04	25 years' lease from 1.9.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Do.
J. Grice ...	Grazing, 5,000 acres ...	Athi and Tharika Rivers	16.8.06	99 years, f. 1.9.07...	Annual rent, Rs. 156 25c.	7.10.07.
N. A. McGregor	Building, 5 acres	Dagoretti Road...	14.8.04	Freehold ...	Price Rs. 20 ...	17.10.07.
D. Mackinnon	Building, 4·38 acres	Nairobi Hill ...	8.5.05	Do. ...	Do.	24.10.07.
J. Mackinnon	Building, 3·7 acres	Do.	Do.	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 16 ...	Do.
T. Deacon	Grazing: 600 acres ...	Stony Athi River	7.6.06	99 years' lease from 1.9.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 37 50c.	Do.
Do.	300 acres ...	Do.	26.7.06	Do.	Annual rent, Rs. 18 75c.	Do.
T. H. Howitt	Grazing, 2,827 acres ...	Reru River ...	30.5.04	99 years, f. 1.6.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 88 37c.	Do.
Souza Junior and Dias ...	Building, 3,750 sq. ft. ...	Nairobi ...	25.11.05	99 years, f. 1.6.04 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 48.	25.10.07.

UKAMBA PROVINCE—continued.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
Goan Institute Trustees	Building, 1 acre	Nairobi	12.4.06	99 years, f. 1.4.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	Registered—30.10.07.
C. Hirtzel.	Grazing, 2,644 acres	Reweru River	—	99 years, f. 1.1.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 82 62c.	4.11.07.
J. P. Engelbrecht.	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Athi River	7.6.06	99 years, f. 1.2.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	9.11.07.
A. Gulowsen	Building, 4 acres	Parklands	Do.	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 16 ...	Reversion of leasehold. Registered—22.11.07.
A. Johansen	Building, 4 acres	Do.	Do.	Do. ...	Do.	Do.
M. R. de Abreo	Agricultural, 8.9 acres	Kaduna River	29.8.05	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 36 ...	Registered—28.11.07.
P. J. Burrance	Agricultural, 640 acres	Kammasie River	22.4.04	Homestead ...	Price, Rs. 1,280	Do.
E. Dobbie.	Building, 1 acre (92)	Parklands	8.10.07	25 years' lease from 1.9.07.	Annual, Rs. 15	Do.
H. H. Taulton	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Kasarani River.	27.9.06	99 years, f. 1.11.07	Annual, Rs. 31 25c.	13.12.07.
Walji Hinji & Sons	Building, 3,750 sq. ft.	Government Road, Nairobi.	7.7.04	99 years, f. 1.6.04 ...	Annual, Rs. 48	Do.
J. D. Hopcraft	Building: 283 acres	Parklands	14.7.05	25 years, f. 1.8.06 ...	Annual, Rs. 9	21.12.07.
Do.	3 acres	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.
Mrs. D. A. Framji	Building, 15,000 sq. ft.	Nairobi	17.7.05	99 years, f. 1.6.04 ...	Annual, Rs. 48	Do.
Do.	Agricultural, 2.66 acres	Nairobi River	Do.	10 years' lease from 1.6.04.	Annual rent, Rs. 48.	Do.

NAIVASHA PROVINCE.

J. Repton	...	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Naivasha	...	3.5.06	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 2,000	Conversion of leasehold. Registered—19.7.07. Registered—19.7.07. Do. Do.
Lord Hindlip	...	Grazing: 1,000 acres	Njoro	...	10.4.05	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 1,000	
Do.	...	998 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 998	
Mrs. A. A. Ortlepp	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	On Lake Nakuru	...	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.4.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	
A. Zarge	...	Grazing: 160 acres	Molo	...	16.6.05	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 320	22.8.07.
Do.	...	840 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 1,680	Do.
C. E. Smith	...	Fuel, 1,623 acres	Njoro	...	28.11.04	35 years' lease from 1.4.07.	Annual, Rs. 101 44c.	Do.
Do.	...	Grazing, 370.75 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Annual, Rs. 23 19c.	Do.
E. A. Burrill	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	25.7.05	99 years, f. 1.1.07...	Annual, Rs. 312 50c.	Do.
F. W. Baillie	...	Grazing, 5012.45 acres...	Near Nakuru	...	28.12.05	99 years, f. 1.2.07...	Annual, Rs. 156 69c.	2.9.07.
B. S. Sargeant	...	Grazing, 4,929 acres	Do.	...	12.9.05	99 years' lease from 1.8.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 154 06c.	10.9.07.
Mrs. M. A. C. Drought...	...	Grazing, 160 acres	Molo	...	16.6.05	Freehold ...	Price, Rs. 320	17.9.07.
Mrs. Drought	...	Grazing: 840 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do. ...	Price, Rs. 1,680	Do.
Do.	...	3,348 acres	Do.	...	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.8.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 209 25c.	24.9.07.
A. Bowker	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	...	1.6.04	99 years, f. 1.4.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	27.9.07.
G. C. Bowker	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Do.	28.9.07.
S. McCall...	...	Grazing, 10,000 acres	Elmenteita Lake	...	17.4.05	99 years, f. 1.5.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 625.	Do.

NAIVASHA PROVINCE—continued.

Name of Applicant.	Nature and Extent.	Locality.	Date.	Freehold or Leasehold.	Price or Rent.	Remarks.
G. E. Murray	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Elmenteita Lake	10.5.06	99 years, f. 1.6.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	Registered—28.9.07.
C. M. Rogers	Building, 1 acre	Nakuru	16.9.07	25 years, f. 1.7.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 36.	8.10.07.
H. B. Dooner	Building, 1 acre	Nakuru Township	6.6.05	25 years' lease from 1.3.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 45.	17.10.07.
E. F. Gibbens	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	29.4.05	99 years, f. 1.6.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	Do.
R. G. T. Bright	Grazing, 2,000 acres	Marendat River	16.2.04	99 years, f. 1.4.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 125.	24.10.07.
S. Madioks	Building, 15,000 sq. ft.	Naivasha Township	14.7.06	25 years, f. 1.8.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 45.	Do.
R. W. Johnson	Building, 9,375 sq. ft.	Nakuru	20.10.04	25 years, f. 1.9.07 ...	Do.	12.11.07.
S. McCall...	Building, 9,375 sq. ft. (29).	Do.	8.5.06	Do.	Do.	23.11.07.
F. Vigue	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Rift Valley	10.10.04	99 years, f. 1.5.06 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	26.11.07.
G. Cole	Grazing, 20,288 acres	Elmenteita Lake	24.5.04	99 years, f. 7.9.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 422 68c.	30.11.07.
E. Fey	Grazing, 2,736 acres	Kibura and Sasumua Rivers.	26.11.06	99 years, f. 1.9.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 85 50c.	5.12.07.
Nazareth and Bros.	Building, 125 ft. by 75 ft. (No. 32).	Nakuru Township	19.5.05	25 years' lease from 1.9.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 45.	28.12.07.
R. Seymour	Building, 26,523 sq. ft.	Naivasha	—	96 years, f. 7.3.07 ...	Annual rent, Rs. 96.	30.12.07.

KISUMU PROVINCE.

T. H. Drake	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Molo	...	16.12.05	99 years' lease from 1.3.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 312 50c.	Registered— 3.7.07.
R. W. Smith	...	Grazing, 4,487 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Do.	Rs. 312 50c.	Do.
Rev. C. T. Abraham	...	Grazing: 1,000 acres	S.W. Slopes of Mau Escarpment.	...	9.4.05	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,000	24.9.07.
Do.	...	4,000 acres	Do.	...	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.1.06.	Annual, Rs. 176 19c.	29.9.07.
Dr. F. Penny	...	Grazing: 1,000 acres	Do.	...	16.11.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,600	29.10.07.
Do.	...	4,001 acres	Do.	...	Do.	99 years' lease from 1.1.05.	Annual rent, Rs. 228 12c.	Do.
Jagat Singh and Surein Singh.	...	Agricultural, 100 acres	Kibos	...	16.5.04	Freehold	Price, Rs. 200.	2.10.07.
Friends African Industrial Mission.	...	Mission, 40 acres	Maragoli...	...	—	Do.	Price, Rs. 80	23.10.07.
Do.	...	Agricultural, 1,46'68 acres	Kamiosi	...	2.2.05	99 years' lease from 1.1.07.	Annual, Rs. 25	24.10.07.
Lumbwa Industrial Mission.	...	Grazing, 1,000 acres	Lumbwa...	...	18.6.06	99 years' lease from 1.6.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 62 50c.	24.9.07
Bishop of Uganda	...	Mission, 80'46 acres	Meseno (Ogolos)	...	28.11.05	Freehold	Price, Rs. 162...	3.12.07
Demasingh and Sodagarsingh.	...	Agricultural, 50 acres	Kibos	...	17.5.04	Do.	Price, Rs. 100...	24.12.07

KENYA PROVINCE.

W. P. James Fawcus	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Thika River	...	23.12.06	99 years' lease from 1.6.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 156 25c.	8.8.07
T. R. Swift	...	Grazing, 5,000 acres	Kiboko River	...	15.8.06	99 years, f. 1.8.07	Do.	27.9.07
W. G. Swanson	...	Agricultural, 640 acres	Nyeri	...	24.9.04	Homestead...	Price, Rs. 1,280	26.11.07
Mrs. A. M. Ramsay	...	Grazing: 1,000 acres	Thika River	...	24.8.06	99 years' lease from 1.6.07.	Annual rent, Rs. 31 25c.	5.12.07
Do.	...	1,000 acres	Do.	...	Do.	Freehold	Price, Rs. 1,000	Do.

TANALAND AND JUBALAND PROVINCES.

Nil.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

	Colony, &c.	Year.
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda... ..	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands... ..	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
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547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do. do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
47	Do. do.	Do. 1905-6
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forests.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 562.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

REPORT FOR 1907.

For Report for 1906, *see* No. 522.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
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1908.

[Cd. 3729-26.] Price 1½d.

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No. 562.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 522.)

THE GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Stanley,

16th May, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1907 which has been prepared by the Honourable H. E. W. Grant, Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

W. L. ALLARDYCE,

Governor.

The Right Honourable,

The Secretary of State for the Colonies,

&c., &c., &c.,

Downing Street.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS FOR THE YEAR 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year ended 31st December, 1907, exclusive of receipts in respect of land sales and under the Live Stock Ordinance, was £17,430, and the expenditure £16,054, exclusive of payments under the Live Stock Ordinance.

The following are the details, as compared with 1906:—

Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Customs	4,947	5,124
Port dues, &c.	151	226
Licences, &c.	530	910
Fees, fines, &c.	1,051	1,436
Post Office	1,129	1,145
Pents	4,455	4,175
Miscellaneous	193	193
Interest on investments	3,366	4,221
Totals	15,822	17,430

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Pensions	325	356
Governor	1,456	1,527
Colonial Secretary	833	873
Treasury and Customs	665	807
Audit	28	28
Port and Marine	86	93
Legal	17	—
Police	445	437
Prisons	237	230
Medical	635	864
Education	1,036	822
Ecclesiastical	420	348
Transport	348	293
Miscellaneous... ..	758	841
Post Office	3,249	3,457
Colonial Engineer	831	1,051
Public Works, Recurrent	1,197	1,317
Public Works, Extraordinary	1,418	806
Interest, &c., Savings Bank	1,220	1,306
Drawbacks and Refunds	439	561
Currency Note Fund	49	37
Totals	15,692	16,054

The annual revenue and expenditure for the years 1903 to 1907, inclusive, were as follows:—

Year.			Revenue.	Expenditure.
			£	£
1903	...	...	17,393	14,346
1904	...	...	15,689	14,249
1905	...	...	15,229	14,825
1906	...	...	15,822	15,692
1907	...	...	17,430	16,054
Average ...			16,313	15,033

The average expenditure, therefore, during the last five years was £1,280 less than the average revenue.

The revenue collected in 1907 was the highest that had yet been raised in the Falklands, exceeding that of 1903, the previous best record, by £37. The revenue of £17,393 in 1903 was made up in part of a refund of £832, the balance of a sum of £2,000 deposited in the Treasury and especially earmarked for harbour works.

The present satisfactory state of the finances of the Colony is to be attributed, in a measure, to the establishment of the whaling industry, and the steps taken to turn to account hitherto non-productive territories. In 1903, the practicability of obtaining a revenue from Colonial waters had not yet been tested, nor was the Colony in receipt of any revenue from its outlying Dependencies. As a result of the inception of the whaling industry in 1904 and its subsequent development, in addition to the moneys received in respect of an agreement for the exploitation of South Georgia as a field for mining operations, the revenue benefited in 1907 to the extent of £921.

The details are given below:—

	£
Rent (South Georgia)	500
Whaling Licences	225
„ Royalties	164
Harbour Dues, &c.	32
Total	921

The receipts in respect of the import duties on wines, malt spirits, and tobacco, amounted to £3,757, and were less by £150 than the revenue collected from the same sources in 1906. The total average receipts under these heads, however, equalled

the average for the last five years, as will be seen from the sub-joined table:—

Article.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Average.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wine ...	93	86	110	91	161	108
Malt ...	506	301	319	384	327	367
Spirits ...	2,472	1,899	1,872	1,920	2,283	2,089
Tobacco ...	1,354	763	1,348	1,512	986	1,193
Totals ...	4,425	3,049	3,649	3,907	3,757	3,757

Stock Fund.

The amount to the credit of the Stock Fund on the 31st December, 1906, was £1,817, as against £1,576 in 1905. The receipts in respect of the land tax levied under the Live Stock Ordinance during 1907 amounted to £807, and expenditure to £1,080, leaving a balance to the credit of the fund on the 31st December, 1907, of £1,544. The sum of £439 was expended in carrying out the provisions of Ordinance No. 3 of 1905, relating to the thinning of upland geese, and the sum of £263 in erecting the new shed and dip in the quarantine sheep paddock.

(B.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets and liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1907, as compared with its assets and liabilities on the 31st December, 1906, are shown below:—

Head.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Assets ...	110,185	125,464
Liabilities ...	58,709	57,516
Excess of Assets	51,476	67,948

(C.) INVESTED FUNDS.

The invested funds during the five years 1903-7 were as follows (cost price):—

Fund.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Land Sales ...	27,081	27,527	40,270	50,181	53,704
Savings Bank ...	49,901	49,919	49,919	49,919	49,919
Intestate Estates ...	640	980	1,596	1,641	1,405
Currency Notes ...	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,300	3,300
Surplus ...	—	2,500	2,300	3,500	14,000
Currency Note Depreciation	44	72	105	140	178
Totals ...	80,166	83,998	97,190	108,681	122,506

The market value of the investments on the 31st December, 1907, was as follows:—

Fund.	Market Value.
	£
Land Sales	52,349
Savings Bank	48,091
Intestate Estates	1,245
Currency Note	3,236
Surplus	14,000
Currency Note Depreciation ...	171
Total	119,092

(D.) CURRENCY.

The conditions under which a Government paper currency has been established under Order of Her late Majesty in Council of the 7th March, 1899, are stated in the Report of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1905.*

The denomination and value of the notes in circulation at the end of the year 1907 were as under:—

Denomination.	Value.
	£
£5	2,915
£1	3,572
5s.	113
Total value	6,600

II.—TRADE AND INDUSTRIES.

(A) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The value of the imports was £73,619, and of the export £246,435, as compared with £66,433 and £185,227, respectively, in 1906.

The following are the details of the imports:—

Class.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
1. LIVE ANIMALS, FOOD AND DRINKS, AND NARCOTICS—		
Aerated waters	287	599
Drugs, &c.	1,323	1,591
Fodder, corn, hay	2,015	1,768
Fruit and vegetables	781	1,356
Groceries, &c.	13,449	16,088
Live stock	2,947	2,520
Malt liquor	2,024	1,933
Spirits	3,540	4,239
Tobacco, cigars, &c.	2,587	1,744
Wine	679	1,094
Totals	29,632	32,932

* Colonial Report—Annual,—No. 490.

Imports—continued.

Class.	1906.	1907.
2. RAW MATERIALS—	£	£
(a.) Textile	—	—
(b.) Metals and Minerals—		
Coal	748	2,803
Other	764	1,107
(c.) Other—		
Timber	3,552	5,276
Totals... ..	5,064	9,186
3. MANUFACTURED ARTICLES—		
(a.) Textile—		
Ships' chandlery	4,108	2,110
Haberdashery	6,368	6,243
Wearing apparel, &c.	6,492	5,431
Totals... ..	16,968	13,784
(b.) Metals and Minerals—		
Hardware, &c.	7,503	9,721
(c.) Other—		
Furniture	2,339	2,677
Glass and earthenware... ..	673	656
Timber and building material... ..	3,754	1,061
Totals... ..	6,766	4,394
Totals of manufactured articles... ..	31,237	27,899
4. COIN AND BULLION	500	3,602
5. PARCEL POST	—*	—†
Grand Totals... ..	66,433	73,619

* Value £5,894, included in the appropriate classes.

† " £6,221, " " " "

The following tables exhibit the value of the imports and exports of the Colony for the years 1903 to 1907:—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Argentina.	Chile.	Uruguay.	Other Countries.	Total Imports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903 ...	58,977	2,037	907	2,115	2,380	44,968	111,384
1904 ...	43,882	—	—	2,827	2,792	—	49,501
1905 ...	52,218	—	416	3,428	2,093	—	58,155
1906 ...	58,867	—	886	4,794	1,896	—	66,433
1907 ...	66,091	—	1,584	3,674	2,270	—	73,619

Exports.

Year	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Argentina.	Chile.	Norway.	Total Exports.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903.	160,883	—	—	—	—	160,883°
1904.	126,935	—	—	—	—	126,935
1905.	167,039	—	411	—	—	167,450
1906.	181,439	—	—	250	3,538	185,227
1907.	195,571	—	3,334	19,530†	28,000*	246,435

* Includes £44,968, value of 22,484 sealskins, produce of pelagic sealing in South Atlantic.

† Approximate value of whale oil and whalebone.

The following is a statement of the quantity and value of the principal items of produce exported during the last five years:—

Item.	1903.		1904.		1905.	
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Wool ...	4,023,807	103,597	4,259,420	115,359	4,251,052	141,701
Tallow ...	428,076	4,000	44,800	520	496,496	5,542
	No.		No.		No.	
Sheepskins	74,502	7,450	74,958	9,369	99,987	17,498
Hides ...	656	558	263	298	1,268	888
Sealskins ...	44,968	45,278	103	151	151	227

—continued.

Item.	1906.		1907.	
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
Wool ...	4,324,215	162,158	4,449,599	166,859
Tallow ...	481,600	5,375	618,800	6,906
	No.		No.	
Sheepskins ...	62,371	10,915	109,835	19,133
Hides ...	723	723	831	831
Sealskins ...	325	228	3,472	6,944

(B.) PASTORAL INDUSTRY.

The report of the Chief Inspector of Stock for the year 1907 is annexed.

The prohibition against the importation of cattle, sheep, and alfalfa (hay) from South America was maintained.

(C.) SHIPPING.

The following are the shipping statistics:—

Nationality of Vessel.	Inwards.						Outwards.					
	Steam.		Sailing.		Tonnage.		Steam.		Sailing.		Tonnage.	
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.
British ..	33	33	10	6	127,383	132,848	33	33	10	5	130,712	132,771
Chilian ..	2	8	2	2	626	2,234	1	9	1	3	313	2,561
Danish ..	—	—	1	—	199	—	—	—	1	—	199	—
French ..	—	—	1	1	1,696	1,944	—	—	—	1	—	1,093
German ..	—	—	2	3	3,033	1,956	—	—	4	2	5,924	1,925
Italian ..	—	—	1	—	1,133	—	—	—	—	1	—	1,133
Norwegian.	4	9	—	4	1,867	6,714	4	11	—	4	1,867	7,646
U.S. America	—	—	1	—	1,533	—	—	—	1	—	1,533	—
Totals ..	39	50	18	16	137,470	145,696	38	53	17	16	140,548	147,732

The following is a comparative statement of the total shipping, inwards and outwards, for the five years 1903 to 1907:—

Year	Inwards.				Outwards.			
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Tonnage.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Tonnage.
1903 ...	32	26	58	117,147	32	21	53	122,494
1904 ...	37	23	60	119,651	37	22	59	117,491
1905 ...	35	14	49	122,803	35	10	45	116,453
1906 ...	39	18	57	137,470	38	17	55	140,548
1907 ...	50	16	66	145,696	53	16	69	147,732

Shipping Casualties.

The British Schooner "Baden Powell" (94 tons) of the port of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, with a cargo of 132 fur seal skins, was totally wrecked at Elephant Jason, West Falkland, on the 23rd November, 1907.

The French Barque "Duc d'Aumale" (1,944 tons) bound from Brest to San Francisco, with a cargo of pig iron and coke, having sprung a leak, was beached at Roy Cove, West Falkland, on the 25th November. She was salvaged by the s.s. "Lovart" of Punta Arenas, and towed into Port Stanley, on the 16th February last, whence she proceeded to Monte Video for repairs.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Four Ordinances were passed.

Ordinance No. 2 makes provision for preventing the spread of lice in sheep.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Government Inspector of Schools (the Very Rev. Cyril H. Golding-Bird, M.A., Dean of Christ Church) writes as follows with regard to the progress of education in the Colony during the year under review:—

“The newly erected Government school was occupied for the first time on January 14th. This building will bear comparison with any provided or non-provided school building, of a similar size, in England.

“Very considerable change, of an obviously advantageous character, has been made in the school syllabus. The recommendations made by His Majesty’s Inspector of Schools, Mr. Richards, have largely been adopted.

“I am glad to report that increased attention has been paid to physical exercises, and that these exercises, when the weather permits, take place in the playground.

“The average attendance of scholars has not been satisfactory. An epidemic of whooping-cough in the winter accounted for many absences from school.

“The efforts made during the last three years, to improve the condition of the schools has been appreciated by the parents of scholars.

“The itinerant schoolmasters continue to carry on their most difficult work in a satisfactory manner. In every case where parents have co-operated with the schoolmaster, by seeing allotted tasks are performed between each visit of the schoolmaster, the results have been satisfactory.

“In Lafonia, the Falkland Islands Company continue to employ a resident schoolmaster at Darwin and two itinerant schoolmasters in the camp.

“Every child in the Colony, between the age of five and thirteen, not mentally or physically incapacitated, is under instruction.”

The number of children being educated in the Colony during the year 1907 was 410, classified as follows:—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Stanley—			
Government Schools—			
Senior	39	24	63
Infant	27	27	54
Roman Catholic School	50	42	92
Privately taught	2	2	4
West Falkland—			
Government Camp (three teachers) ...	47	34	81
Privately taught	5	11	16
East Falkland—			
Government Camp (two teachers) ...	22	21	43
Darwin School	7	7	14
Falkland Islands Company's Camps (two teachers).	18	19	37
Bleaker and Speedwell Islands ...	4	2	6
Totals ...	221	189	410

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

SAVINGS BANK.

During the year ended 30th September, 1907, 55 accounts were opened and 33 closed, leaving a total number of 373 depositors, with balances amounting in the aggregate to £58,632 2s. 2d., or an average of a fraction over £157 standing to the credit of each account. The average balance per head of the population of the Colony was £28 7s. 10d., showing an increase, as compared with that of the previous year, of £2 17s. 10d.

The income earned by the bank was £1,650 16s. 6d., and the amount paid in respect of interest £1,202 19s. 4d., leaving a profit on the year's transactions of £447 17s. 2d.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

The following table summarises the criminal statistics for the five years 1903 to 1907:—

	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Number of offences reported to the police.	34	80	64	57	24
Number of summary convictions—					
1. For offences against the person ...	4	5	2	3	2
2. " " " property ...	4	1	5	1	3
3. For other offences ...	80	57	40	29	18
Number of Supreme Court convictions—					
1. For offences against the person ...	2	—	—	2	—
2. " " " property ...	2	—	—	—	—
3. For other offences ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Acquittals—					
1. Inferior Court ...	2	16	17	22	1
2. Supreme Court ...	—	1	—	—	—

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The estimated population of the Colony for 1907, exclusive of the whaling settlement in South Georgia, was 2,266, as against 2,065 in 1906.

There were 53 births and 21 deaths, as against 56 births and 17 deaths in 1906.

Five deaths resulted from whooping-cough, two from diphtheria, and one from accidental drowning.

The birth-rate was 23·38 per 1,000, as against 27·11 in 1906.

The death-rate was 9·26 per 1,000, as against 8·23 in 1906.

Ten marriages took place during the year.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony during the year 1907 was good, except in Stanley.

Stanley was visited by an epidemic of dysenteric diarrhoea, followed by one of whooping-cough.

There were no complications in the former outbreak, and attacks subsided in from 7 to 10 days. The cases treated numbered 145.

The epidemic of whooping-cough was one of moderate severity, the attack lasting, on an average, 12 weeks. The children known to be affected numbered 279, but there were, in addition, mild cases, to which no medical aid was summoned. The disease claimed five deaths of children under two years of age.

An outbreak of diphtheria occurred at Third Corral, North Camp, East Falkland, but the spread of the disease was arrested, owing to the prompt action of the Medical Officer of the Falkland Islands Company, Limited, Dr. Foley, and the isolation measures taken by the Board of Health. The outbreak was confined to one family, five members of which were affected. Two cases terminated fatally.

During the year five cases of beri-beri were under treatment. The patients were Canadian sealers, who had been ill two or three weeks prior to their arrival in port. On the hypothesis that the disease is due to the absorption of a toxine derived from food-stuffs, an investigation was made into the quality of the provisions supplied to the vessels on which the disease had appeared. Some rice and salt fish were found to be in a damaged condition.

The following table shows the number of cases under medical treatment during the year (exclusive of those treated at Darwin and in the North Camp, in respect of which districts no returns have been received):—

District	No. of Cases.
Stanley	1,367
West Falkland...	286
Total	1,653

The Government nurse continued to render valuable services, attending 62 cases and paying 1,650 visits.

The Vaccination Ordinance was strictly enforced, and the results were satisfactory, 57 successful vaccinations being recorded, distributed as under:—

District.	No. of Cases.
Stanley	22
Darwin and North Camp...	25
West Falkland	10
Total	57

Four vessels were placed in quarantine.

Important improvements were undertaken in connection with the quarantine station at the naval depôt, consisting in the erection of a mortuary and disinfecting room, a laundry, and lavatories.

(C.) CLIMATE.

The total rainfall registered at Stanley during 1907 was 20·745 inches. Its distribution throughout the year is shown in the following table, which has been compiled from the records kept at Government House:—

Month.	Rainfall in Inches.	Maximum. Inches.	No. of days on which rain fell.
January	1·050	·220 on 31st	12
February	1·680	·810 „ 8th	12
March	·730	·290 „ 1st	10
April	1·240	·260 „ 6th	16
May	2·075	·350 „ 11th	21
June	1·765	·300 „ 1st	23
July	1·845	·380 „ 30th	21
August	1·230	·240 „ 20th	16
September	1·375	·330 „ 5th	16
October	1·555	·310 „ 9th	21
November	2·600	·600 „ 26th	16
December	3·600	·620 „ 26th	20
Total	20·745	—	204

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE, &c.

The revenue of the Post Office was £1,145, as against £1,129 in 1906. The expenditure (including a subsidy of £2,500 for the conveyance of mails beyond the Colony) was £3,457, as against £3,249 in 1906.

The Colony is in the Postal Union.

Telegrams are sent and received by post viâ Monte Video and Punta Arenas.

The value of the money orders issued during the last five years is shown below:—

Year.	On the United Kingdom.	On Other Places.	Total.
1903	£ 8,943	£ 250	£ 9,193
1904	8,540	228	8,768
1905	8,467	135	8,602
1906	8,056	145	8,201
1907	7,646	270	7,916

The total number of postal packets (letters, &c.) dealt with during the last five years was as under:—

Year.	Number.
1903	87,069
1904	82,028
1905	83,791
1906	83,201
1907	87,854

The following statement shows in detail the number of postal packets dealt with during 1907:—

Description of Packet.	Delivered from			Posted to			Grand Total.
	United Kingdom.	Other Places.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Other Places.	Total.	
Letters and Post Cards.	17,108	7,293	24,401	19,875	8,124	27,999	52,400
Newspapers, books, &c.	27,947	400	28,347	1,910	663	2,573	30,920
Parcels ...	4,173	—	4,173	361	—	361	4,534
Totals ...	49,228	7,693	56,921	22,146	8,787	30,933	87,854
1906 ...	45,680	8,774	54,424	19,466	9,311	28,777	93,201

The value of the goods imported by parcel post during the five years ended 1907 was as follows:—

Year.	Value.
	£.
1903	3,376
1904	4,726
1905	3,593
1906	5,894
1907	6,221

The British and foreign mails are conveyed by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company by means of a four-weekly service between Liverpool and Valparaiso.

The local interinsular mail, passenger, and traffic service continues to be performed by vessels owned by the Falkland Islands Company. Their fleet of small sailing craft was strengthened in June by the addition of the schooner "Malvina." The new vessel (80 tons) is of the auxiliary type, being fitted with a four-cylinder oil engine and a two-bladed propeller.

The telephone line between Stanley and Darwin Harbour, referred to in the report for 1906 as being in course of construction, was completed in November, when the first message

was transmitted between the two stations, a distance of about 60 miles. The line, which is the joint property of the Government and the Falkland Islands Company, is open to the public for the transmission of messages, on a telegraphic system, at a minimum charge of one shilling for every 12 words, including the address of the person to whom the message is sent, and one penny for every additional word.

The telephone line between Stanley and Cape Pembroke Lighthouse, and the town exchange, worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

IX.—NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The strength of the Volunteer Force on the 21st December, 1907, was four officers and 83 non-commissioned officers and men, showing a decrease, as compared with the strength at the close of 1906, of 11 men. The amount of the capitation grant earned was £72, representing 36 efficient, as against 41 in 1906.

X.—GENERAL.

(A.) NOTABLE EVENTS.

A message from His Majesty the King to the people of the Falkland Islands specially marked the year 1907. The Governor was entrusted with the delivery of it on his return to the Colony from leave of absence, and, on the anniversary of His Majesty's Birthday, His Excellency made public the following gratifying announcement:—

“His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to command me, on returning from England to the Falkland Islands, to express his deep personal interest in the prosperity and progress of all his subjects in this far outpost of his dominions, and to convey to them his greeting and good wishes.”

A dutiful and loyal acknowledgment of this message was adopted at a public meeting held in Stanley and transmitted to the Secretary of State to be laid before His Majesty.

A Flower Show and Industrial Exhibition was held in Stanley on the 1st March, 1907. This exhibition has now become an annual event, being the revival by His Excellency the Governor of a movement initiated in 1867, but which lasted for a few years only.

The first of the new series of exhibitions was held in 1906. The third was opened on the 28th February last. The exhibits on that occasion nearly quadrupled in number those of 1906.

Friday, the 24th May, was observed as "Victoria Day," and Sunday, the 26th May, as "Empire Day."

The fixed light at Cape Pembroke lighthouse was replaced on the 8th June by a white flashing light.

The new light shows one flash every 10 seconds as follows, viz.:—

				Seconds.
Flash	...	...	...	·65
Eclipse	...	...	...	9·35
Total period	...	...	...	10·00

The intensity of this light is equal to about 105,000 candles.

Dr. Carl Skottsberg and Mr. T. Halle, the members of a Swedish Scientific Expedition, arrived in the Colony on the 26th October, 1907, and remained until the 12th February, 1908, during which time they travelled over the Islands and investigated the geological, botanical, and zoological conditions of the group.

(B.) OFFICIAL.

During the absence from the Colony of His Excellency, Governor W. L. Allardyce, C.M.G., on leave, from the 24th April to the 25th September, the Government was administered by Mr. H. E. W. Grant, the Colonial Secretary.

During Mr. Grant's administration, Mr. George Hurst, the Postmaster, &c., acted as Police Magistrate, Coroner, Auditor, and as a Commissioner of Currency.

After a long career of zealous service in the Falklands, extending over a period of thirty years, the Very Reverend Lowther E. Brandon, M.A., Dean and Colonial Chaplain, retired on pension on the 25th August, 1907.

On Dean Brandon's retirement the office of Colonial Chaplain was abolished, and the amount of the annual ecclesiastical vote revised. The Government grant of £400 a year hitherto made in respect of the salary of the Colonial Chaplain (£300) and as an allowance for an assistant clergyman (£100) was reduced to £200. This grant is made on the understanding that it is subject to revision hereafter, and is paid to the Trustees of Christ Church Cathedral for the purpose of augmenting the salary of one or two clergymen as they may decide, in their discretion, to appoint, on the condition that the Incumbent or his assistant will, without additional remuneration from the Government, perform such educational work as the Government

may desire, and as they may be able to undertake without interfering with their clerical duties.

Dean Brandon was succeeded by the Very Reverend Cyril H. Golding-Bird, M.A., as Dean of Christ Church and Government Inspector of Schools.

The Honourable J. J. Felton, having taken up his residence in England, resigned his seats on the Executive and Legislative Councils early in the year. He was succeeded by the Honourable Vere Packe.

It is recorded, with regret, that Mr. Thomas Kerr, C.M.G., who was Governor of the Colony from 1880 to 1891, died in August, 1907.

(C.) PUBLIC WORKS.

A new wing, for the accommodation of the Colonial Secretary and his staff, was added to the Public Offices; the public reservoir, which has a capacity of about 100,000 gallons, was thoroughly repaired; a substantial sea-wall, enclosing a reclamation area at the east end of Stanley was constructed; a new shed and dip were erected in the quarantine sheep paddock; the building formerly used as the senior school was converted into a cottage home for the relief of the indigent poor; a section of the sea-wall was rebuilt; and various out-buildings were erected at the quarantine station on the north side of the harbour.

(D.) FUTURE PROSPECTS.

The future prospects of the Falklands are inseparably connected with the price of wool, on which the general prosperity of the Colony must mainly depend. The prices ruling during the last few years have been remunerative, but they declined towards the end of 1907, and the results of the March sales in 1908, as compared with those of 1907, show a further decrease. It is hoped, however, that this depression will prove to be only temporary, and that the movement observed to be in progress in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Argentina, for converting sheep-rearing areas into agricultural lands, owing to improved prices in wheat, will react beneficially on the staple industry of this Colony.

H. E. W. GRANT,

Colonial Secretary.

Stanley,

12th May, 1908.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF
STOCK FOR THE YEAR 1907.

Stanley,

10th March, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith my annual report for the year ended the 31st December, 1907.

Seasons.—The summer and autumn were exceptionally dry, and, in consequence of the excessive dryness, the hard camp and small islands suffered greatly. The winter was open, and there was but little snow. The spring has been the wettest that has been experienced for some years past.

Sheep.—The total number of sheep in the Colony at the end of May, 1907, was 695,747. This shows a decrease of 6,949, as compared with the previous year. This decrease is mainly due to the exportation of culled ewes to Patagonia. The total number exported was 12,203, all from Port Salvador. An experiment was tried by a Hamburg firm for the exportation of salt mutton to Europe, which has not proved a success.

Wool.—The clip was somewhat light, but sound, and realised a good price.

Lambing.—The result in this respect was about 75 per cent.

Dipping.—This important work has been more carefully attended to than in previous years, and I am pleased to say sheep were never more free from parasites. An Ordinance to make provision for preventing the spread of lice in sheep was passed in January, but was not enforced during 1907, in order that farmers might have ample time to take steps to comply with the requirement of compulsory dipping. To protect careful flock-owners from their negligent neighbours, every effort is made, but several of the farmers do not seem to realise the advantages to be gained by compulsory dipping, and have petitioned against this Ordinance.

The live stock imported during the year were as follows:—

16 Romney Marsh rams from England.
5 Lincoln " "
268 Horses from Patagonia.

The rams were quarantined for 28 days. With the exception of a few cases of foot-rot they were all perfectly healthy. The quarantine shed has been thoroughly renovated and there is every convenience now for placing imported stud sheep under temporary supervision.

Geese.—The Ordinance for effecting a diminution in the number of geese has been extended until the 31st December,

1912. It was found necessary to increase the number of beaks authorised to be purchased in the East Falklands from 37,500 to 50,000. There is a marked reduction in the number of geese in some parts, while in others very little attention is being paid to the arrest of their increase. The number of beaks authorised to be purchased for the year for the East and West Falklands respectively were:—

East Falklands, 50,000.

West Falklands, 37,500.

The number purchased were:—

East Falklands, 46,840.

West Falklands, 28,185.

Grass Seed Sowing.—There has been very little done in this respect during the year. Those, however, who have sown seed are quite satisfied with the result and are convinced that it will grow in suitable places, consequently they are sending away large orders for 1908.

Ditching and Draining.—Several of the farmers are paying more attention than hitherto to this important matter, and they are being amply repaid by the results.

I have &c.,

J. ROBERTSON,

Chief Inspector of Stock.

The Honourable

The Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.			
No.	Colony, &c.		Year.
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	...	1906
531	Sierra Leone	...	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	...	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	...	1906
534	Gold Coast	...	"
535	Malta	...	1906-1907
536	Gambia	...	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	...	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	...	"
539	Leeward Islands	...	"
540	Straits Settlements	...	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	...	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	...	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	...	"
544	Barbados	...	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	...	"
546	Grenada	...	"
547	Mauritius	...	1906
548	Fiji	...	"
549	Jamaica	...	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	...	"
551	Northern Nigeria	...	"
552	British Honduras	...	1906
553	St. Lucia	...	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	...	1906
555	St. Vincent	...	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	...	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	...	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	...	"
559	Swaziland	...	"
560	St. Helena	...	1907
561	Ceylon	...	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do. do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL,

No. 548.

F I J I.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 509.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
November, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C.,
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1907.

[Cd. 3729-12.] *Price 1½d.*

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No. 548.

FIJI.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 509.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Suva,
16th September, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the usual number of copies of the Fiji Blue Book for the year 1906 are being transmitted to you by this mail under separate cover, and to enclose a report thereon by the Honourable the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

EVERARD IM THURN.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

FIJI BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR 1906.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1906.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The amount of revenue received under the various heads for the years 1906 and 1905 is shewn in the following statement:—

Head of Revenue.	1906.	1905.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	99,593 18 2	82,725 0 6
Port, Wharfage, and Lighthouse Dues	8,155 11 6	6,554 16 8
Native Taxes	16,309 10 0	15,477 8 7
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue, not otherwise classified.	11,854 8 2	12,692 5 11
Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid.	11,591 5 7	11,285 19 9
Post Office	4,527 7 2	4,717 14 5
Rent of Government Property ...	867 10 6	560 9 3
Interest	3,863 19 11	1,444 15 3
Miscellaneous	1,595 6 9	1,142 5 8
Land Sales	28 0 0	20 0 0
"Indian Return Passage Fund" transferred.	—	56,353 19 2
"Polynesian Return Passage Fund" transferred.	27,037 2 0	—
Total Revenue ... £	185,423 19 9	192,974 15 2

The following is a statement of the expenditure under the various heads for the years 1906 and 1905:—

Head of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure, 1906.	Actual Expenditure, 1905.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	13,252 5 0	15,245 10 0
Pensions	3,361 7 4	2,789 16 8
The Governor and Legislature ...	3,737 15 1	3,785 6 2
Colonial Secretary's Department ...	2,313 1 0	2,231 13 4
Government Printing Office	2,574 14 9	2,255 1 0
Audit Department	826 10 8	752 12 8
Postal Department	8,344 7 2	7,379 1 9
Native Department	7,915 8 3	8,111 10 6
Treasury... ..	2,145 16 10	3,499 0 10
Carried forward ...	44,471 6 1	46,049 12 11

Expenditure—continued.

Head of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure, 1906.			Actual Expenditure, 1905.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	44,471	6	1	46,049	12	11
Customs Department ...	4,510	8	2	4,120	5	4
Port and Marine Department ...	2,739	16	6	2,636	8	10
Immigration Department ...	4,895	2	7	2,145	16	9
Judicial and Legal Departments ...	11,087	12	6	10,668	12	10
Fiji Constabulary ...	9,152	13	1	6,351	9	8
Volunteer Corps ...	736	0	2	517	7	5
Prisons Department ...	4,418	15	3	4,106	17	0
Medical Department ...	12,143	3	5	11,235	1	4
Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, and Leper Asylum.	3,482	10	2	3,342	5	11
Education ...	1,457	2	9	1,749	10	2
Transport ...	4,920	19	9	4,340	17	4
Agricultural Department ...	3,259	1	1	1,212	2	5
Miscellaneous ...	2,802	12	8	2,223	18	9
Lands Department ...	4,458	4	11	2,547	17	1
Works Department ...	2,435	16	4			
Public Works, Annually Recurrent ...	7,474	7	5	5,492	7	7
	124,445	12	10	108,740	11	4
Public Works Extraordinary ...	24,928	2	0	10,265	1	0
Suva Water Supply Extension ...	—			13,037	10	2
Total ...	149,373	14	10	132,043	2	6

The total revenue and expenditure during each of the past five years is shewn in the following table:—

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1902 ...	132,512	14	4	104,975	6	3
1903 ...	138,166	16	11	113,341	7	10
1904 ...	139,404	16	0	158,166	16	11
1905 ...	192,974	15	2	132,043	2	6
1906 ...	185,423	19	9	149,373	14	10

The revenue for 1905 includes an extraordinary receipt of £27,037 2s. being the amount of Polynesian Return Passages Fund transferred to general revenue, while that for 1905 includes a similar receipt of £56,353 19s. 2d. being the amount of Indian Return Passages Fund. Excluding these two extraordinary items of receipt, the revenue for 1906 and 1905 amounted to £158,386 17s. 9d. and £136,620 16s., respectively. The principal increase in 1906 as compared with 1905 was under the head of Customs, partly due to the extension of the sugar industry, but mainly owing to the increased purchasing power of the natives.

The expenditure for 1906 exceeded the estimate by £12,224 1s. 6d. Of this amount £2,900 represents the cost of acquiring 2,900 acres of land (Waidoi) now under lease. The over expenditure under the head of Public Works Extraordinary amounted to £7,118 2s. of which £4,918 6s. 4d. was expended on public buildings and £3,800 9s. 4d. on new roads.

(B.) CHANGES IN TAXATION.

No changes in taxation have taken place during the year, but a readjustment of Customs dues is under consideration.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets.							
				£	s.	d.	£ s. d.
Indian Immigrants Introduction Fund—							
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	8,730	10	2	
Bills in transit and maturing	...	...	...	10,000	0	0	
Emigration Agent, Calcutta:							
Balance in hand on 30th September,							
1906	...	...	...	1,055	17	5	
Emigration Agent, Madras:							
Balance in hand on 30th November,							
1906	...	...	...	327	17	5	
Paid into Bank after the close of the							
year	...	...	...	10	1	0	
							20,124 6 0
Intestate and Vacant Estates Account—							
Fixed Deposit	...	...	...	230	16	0	
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	176	1	10	
Paid into Bank after close of year	...			8	19	3	
							415 17 1
Native Department Deposit Account—							
Fixed Deposits	...	...	...	6,158	13	11	
Invested in Colonial Stocks	...	...	...	4,263	8	11	
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	3,719	3	5	
							14,141 6 3
Polynesian Wages Account—							
Fixed Deposits	...	...	...	1,000	0	0	
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	532	5	3	
							1,532 5 3
Deceased Immigrants' Suspense Account—							
Fixed Deposit	...	...	...	150	0	0	
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	195	0	4	
Paid into Bank after close of year	...			3	14	0	
							348 14 4
Native Taxes Account—							
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...				3,161 4 5
Carried forward							£39,723 13 4

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1906, amounted to £145,058 9s. 8d., as compared with £108,995 13s. 3d. on 31st December, 1905, and £48,118 15s. 7d. on 31st December, 1904. The large increase of assets is mainly due to the transfer to public funds of the accumulated balances of the funds created for the repatriation of Indian and Polynesian labourers, the colony having assumed the liability which these funds were created to meet. The following statement shews the assets and liabilities of the colony on 31st December, 1906 :—

on the 31st December, 1906.

Liabilities.					
		£	s.	d.	£ s. d.
Indian Immigrants Introduction Fund—					
Overpaid by Crown Agents	...	5,682	12	11	
Cheques Unpaid	...	89	12	8	
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	14,352	0	5	20,124 6 0
Intestate and Vacant Estates Account—					
Cheques unpaid	...	1	3	3	
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	414	13	10	415 17 1
Native Department Deposit Account—					
Cheques Unpaid	...	1,069	6	4	
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	13,071	19	11	14,141 6 3
Polynesian Wages Account—					
Amount to Credit of the Account	...				1,532 5 3
Deceased Immigrants' Suspense Account—					
Amount to Credit of the Account	...				348 14 4
Native Taxes Account—					
Cheques Unpaid	...	185	18	3	
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	2,975	6	2	3,161 4 5
Carried forward...	...				£39,723 13 4

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on

Assets.						
				£	s.	d.
Brought forward...	...	...	...			
						39,723 13 4
Indian Settlement Fund—						
Fixed Deposits	...	...	...	4,500	0	0
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	817	18	1
						5,317 18 1
Money Order Account—						
Fixed Deposit	...	...	...	1,600	0	0
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	1,036	10	2
Cash in hand	...	...	...	32	8	0
						2,668 18 2
Supreme Court Suitors' Fund—						
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...			139 11 7
Estates Trust Account—						
Fixed Deposits	...	...	...	591	18	5
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...	147	18	0
						739 16 5
						48,589 17 7
Public Account—						
Invested in Stocks	...	...	...			123,414 13 8
Credit Balance : Crown Agents	...	...	...			2,406 2 9
Bills maturing in London and in transit	...	...	...			6,000 0 0
Amounts due to Immigration Department	...	...	...			22 18 6
Advances recoverable	...	...	...			592 0 0
Rotuma Advances recoverable	...	...	...			302 6 6
Deferred payment Advance Account	...	...	...			1,857 17 0
Bank Credit Balance	...	...	...			5,854 15 1
Paid into Bank after close of year	...	...	...			3,991 8 1
Indian Introduction Advance Account	...	...	...			7,160 12 1
Crown Agents' Advance Account	...	...	...			10,000 0 0
Total	...	...	...			210,192 11 3

the 31st December, 1906—continued.

Liabilities.						
				£	s.	d.
Brought forward	...	...	...			
						39,723 13 4
Indian Settlements Fund—						
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	...	...			
						5,317 18 1
Money Order Account—						
Cheque Unpaid	...	...	...	4	11	0
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	...	...	2,664	7	2
						2,668 18 2
Supreme Court Suitors' Fund—						
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	...	...			
						139 11 7
Estates Trust Account—						
Cheques Unpaid	...	...	...	4	8	6
Amount to Credit of the Account	...	...	...	735	7	11
						739 16 5
						48,589 17 7
Public Account—						
Cheques Unpaid	...	...	...			
Deposits Repayable	...	...	...			
						16,199 4 0
						345 0 0
						65,134 1 7
Excess of Assets	...	...	...			
						145,058 9 8
Total	...	...	...			
						210,192 11 3

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt of the Colony on 31st December, 1906,—
stood as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial loan (without interest) ...	60,815	1	3
Debentures (bearing interest at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$)	82,600	0	0
	<u>£143,415</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

The Imperial loan is now being repaid at the rate of £5,000 per annum. A sum of £1,500 per annum is applied to the redemption of debentures, the interest on debentures so redeemed being applied to the further reduction of the debt. During 1906 the public debt was reduced by £9,400.

(E.) CURRENCY.

The legal tender currency and the only coin in circulation is British sterling. There is no Government note issue. The Bank of New Zealand has branches at Suva and Levuka, and the Bank of New South Wales a branch at Suva. Both banks have a private note issue, the amount in circulation being estimated at £3,834.

(F.) MUNICIPAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during each of the last five years, of the Suva and Levuka Town and School Boards :—

Year.	Suva Town Board.		Levuka Town Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1902 ...	2,041	2,005	940	1,108
1903 ...	2,051	2,009	919	1,296
1904 ...	2,247	2,808	1,451	2,042
1905 ...	2,968	3,069	1,452	1,065
1906 ...	2,727	3,031	1,263	1,374

Year.	Suva School Board.		Levuka School Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1902 ...	856	785	682	651
1903 ...	1,034	1,094	711	603
1904 ...	1,099	1,309	605	694
1905 ...	1,106	1,065	665	651
1906 ...	1,007	842	628	646

(G.) DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES.

The debt of the Suva Town Board consists of a debenture loan of £2,000 bearing interest at 5 per cent., and repayable at the rate of £100 per annum. The loan was raised to provide a portion of the cost of construction of a Town Hall (£1,200), and the renewal of two bridges (£800). On 31st December, 1906, the debt stood at £1,800. The debt of the Levuka Town Board amounts to £500, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and repayable at the rate of £50 per annum.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during the years 1906 and 1905 :—

Nature of Import	1905.	1906.
	£	£
Bacon and hams	2,031	2,154
Bags and sugar-mats	14,730	12,601
Beer	3,861	4,411
Books	2,030	1,424
Boots and shoes	5,070	5,214
Breadstuffs and biscuits	31,287	39,062
Bran and pollard	3,368	3,916
Butter and ghee	8,822	10,762
Cement	3,099	4,218
Coal	23,253	17,788
Cordage	2,902	3,117
Cutlery	2,315	2,828
Drapery	75,767	100,545
Drugs	4,973	4,870
Fish	5,936	6,148
Furniture	2,995	3,624
Galvanised iron and goods	9,349	13,831
Glassware and crockery	2,714	2,814
Hardware	28,164	45,184
Iron—bar, rod, sheet, rails, and pipes	6,183	17,813
Jewellery	2,482	3,093
Leatherware	4,480	5,467
Live-stock	17,076	40,580
Machinery	21,032	53,795
Machinery—agricultural	6,727	10,505
Manure	4,235	12,993
Meats	9,589	14,686
Oils	13,011	14,078
Paints	3,103	2,812
Rice	7,549	14,754
Ship chandlery	2,300	2,314
Soap	1,695	1,780
Spirits	7,209	7,582
Stationery	4,580	5,262
Sugar	5,280	4,797
Timber	17,885	26,556
Tobacco	5,313	5,564
Vegetables and green fruit	6,936	6,728
Wines	2,011	2,625

The items showing increases of note are breadstuffs and biscuits, drapery, galvanised iron and goods, hardware, iron, live-stock, machinery, manure, meats, rice, and timber.

The increase in the importation of breadstuffs, drapery, and meats, is due mainly to the increased purchasing power of the natives, owing to the high price obtained for copra and the increased export of green fruit, chiefly bananas. There has also been an increase in the rents and proceeds of sales of native lands. The increase under the heads of galvanised iron, hardware, iron, timber, and machinery, is accounted for by the extension of the sugar industry.

The staple products of the Colony are sugar, copra, and green fruit. The quantity and value of the principal exports during the past five years are given in the following statement :—

Year.	Sugar.		Copra.		Green Fruit.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	£
1902 ...	35,905	347,691	10,683	135,354	25,226
1903 ...	46,438	406,318	8,526	91,050	32,162
1904 ...	52,138	469,391	7,406	86,140	22,102
1905 ...	58,488	539,594	10,200	125,892	28,996
1906 ...	38,523	347,198	9,772	143,683	97,678

The export of sugar for 1906 shows a decrease of 19,965 tons. This large decrease was occasioned by the drought in 1905 ; the Vancouver-Fiji Sugar Company's mill was also closed during a considerable portion of the year owing to the erection of a new mill.

The value of green fruit shows an increase of £68,681, as compared with the figures for 1905, due to increased exportation to Australia owing to the destruction of the banana crop in Queensland by a hurricane.

The principal minor exports are turtle-shell (£2,135), bêche-de-mer (£1,563), coconuts (£1,534), bark (£1,102), and hides and pelts (£1,099).

The following table shows the value of the total imports and exports for the past five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1902 ...	526,846	535,170
1903 ...	489,095	554,707
1904 ...	439,995	589,990
1905 ...	442,852	706,403
1906 ...	609,496	603,410

The amount of Customs duties levied on imports during each of the past five years was as follows :—

Year.				Customs Duties Levied.
				£
1902	...	...	...	81,988
1903	...	...	...	84,136
1904	...	...	...	81,967
1905	...	...	...	82,725
1906	...	...	...	99,594

The bulk of the import trade is done with Sydney, and it is therefore not possible to obtain accurate information as to the importation of British and foreign goods. As far as can be ascertained, the importation of the following classes of goods is increasing steadily and is replacing goods of British manufacture,—from Germany—glass and crockery, hardware, drapery (cotton and woollen), furniture,—from Belgium—hardware and nails,—from Japan and the East—drapery, wickerware, matting, silk.

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

No systematic attempt has as yet been made to prospect for minerals in this Colony though traces of gold have been found on the islands of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, and it is believed that copper exists on the former island.

The following statement gives the particulars available as to the various mills, factories, &c., established in the Colony and the nominal daily output :—

—				No.	Aggregate nominal daily output.
Sugar mills	...	...	...	6	420 tons dried sugar.
Tea factory	...	...	...	1	400 lb. dried tea.
Boatbuilding yards	...	...	...	15	
Soapworks	...	...	...	1	9 cwt. soap.
Saw-mills	...	...	...	4	
Rice mills	...	...	...	1	

Twenty-four tons of bêche-de-mer, 10 tons of pearl-shell, and 1 ton of turtle-shell were exported during 1906.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANIC STATIONS.

The cultivation of sugar, coconuts, and green fruit (chiefly bananas) forms the staple agricultural industries of the Colony. There are at present six sugar mills in the Colony, of which four are owned by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Ltd., of Sydney. The mill in the Navua district, recently acquired

by the Vancouver-Fiji Sugar Company, has been replaced by a new and larger mill better fitted for the growing requirements of the district. The total area of land under cane cultivation is estimated at 40,519 acres, from which were produced in 1906, 403,182 tons of sugar cane. The area under coconuts is estimated at 27,477 acres, but this represents European cultivation only, no returns of the area cultivated by natives being furnished. The total quantity of copra (the dried kernel of the coconut) exported during 1906 was 9,771 tons valued at £143,683.

The area under bananas and pineapples was 3,973 acres, but this does not include native cultivation. Considerable areas of bananas are cultivated by natives, who sell their produce to European agents for shipment. The total area of cultivated land in the Colony (exclusive of native cultivation) is estimated at 78,875 acres. The total estimated acreage of the Colony is 4,953,920 acres.

A Department of Agriculture was established in 1905 under the charge of a Superintendent, Mr. C. H. Knowles, B.Sc. There are two experimental stations in connection with the Department, one at Nasinu about nine miles from Suva (area 112 acres), and one at Lautoka (area 110 acres), the former being situated in a wet, and the latter in a dry, district. There is a small factory in Suva under the Department, equipped with a Macarthy cotton gin (40 inch), a Death and Ellwood fibre machine, and a brushing machine turned by a 5 h.p. oil engine, and a press. This factory gins cotton and prepares sisal hemp, Mauritius hemp, ginger fibre, &c.

There is undoubtedly a good opening for the cultivation in this Colony of such minor products as sisal hemp, ginger, limes, spices, tobacco, &c. The cultivation of rubber has hitherto hardly been attempted; successful efforts are, however, being made on at least two plantations to introduce this product. The growth of the existing trees shows that conditions are favourable to both the Para and Ceara species. Large areas of land suitable for rubber cultivation can be obtained at reasonable rates.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The total area of Crown land in the Colony is estimated at 27,700 acres. The area of land held by Europeans under grant is 450,427 acres, the area of native-owned land being some $4\frac{1}{2}$ million acres. In addition to the Crown land mentioned above, the Government has secured on a 99 years' lease some 57,000 acres of land in the province of Bua suitable for grazing and, in parts, for coconut and rubber cultivation. The terms on which this land will be sublet for grazing are, 3*d.* per acre per annum for the first five years, 6*d.* per acre per annum for the second five years, 9*d.* per acre per annum for the third five years, and thereafter 1*s.* per acre per annum. Some 30,000 acres have already been leased on these terms. Negotiations are now being

carried on and will shortly be completed for the acquisition on long lease of similar large areas in other parts of the Colony.

The following statement shews the total area of native land leased or purchased during 1906 as compared with 1905 :—

	1905.			1906.		
	Area.		Rent or Price.	Area.		Rent or Price.
	a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.
Total defined land leased.	10,546	1	4	2,058	11	3
Total land leased not surveyed.	4,838	0	0	847	12	0
Do. do.	18,200	0	0	60	0	0
Totals ...	33,584	1	4	2,966	3	3
Purchases ...	2,194	0	0	2,015	0	0
	35,778	1	4	4,981	3	3
				90,782	0	39.3
				15,189	17	6

(E.) SHIPPING.

Particulars regarding the number, nationality, and tonnage of the steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony during 1905 and 1906 are given in the following table :—

Nationality.	Description.	Entered.				Cleared.			
		1906.		1905.		1906.		1905.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British ...	Steam	133	207,149	120	186,222	128	202,727	119	184,434
" ...	Sailing	11	2,988	10	2,608	9	1,136	9	1,910
American	"	1	642	2	1,097	2	1,162	2	1,097
Norwegian	"	3	2,286	3	2,551	—	—	6	4,368

The following statement shows the total shipping entered and cleared during the past five years :—

Year.			Entered.	Cleared.	Total.
			Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1902	...	...	174,133	175,522	349,655
1903	...	...	168,139	168,069	336,208
1904	...	...	183,761	175,000	358,761
1905	...	...	194,299	193,102	387,401
1906	...	...	213,065	205,025	418,090

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following are the principal Ordinances passed during 1906 :

No. II. "The Dogs Ordinance, 1906" ; repeals previous legislation and makes provision for dealing with injuries by dogs to persons or property throughout the Colony. Provisions as to registration of dogs are applicable in proclaimed districts only.

No. III. "The Fiji Rifle Association Ordinance, 1906" ; provides for the affiliation of the various rifle clubs in the Colony, and for their equipment and training. Certain concessions are granted in return for which the members undergo training and are liable for service if called out.

No. IV. "The Polynesian Immigration Amendment Ordinance, 1906." The accumulated balances of the "Public Trust Account" (consisting of moneys paid for wages and return passages of Polynesian Immigrants) and the "Polynesian Immigration Fund" (consisting of unclaimed wages and passage money transferred from the Public Trust Account) are transferred to general revenue, which will in future bear all charges heretofore borne by the account and fund respectively. Immigrants are allowed to receive a portion of their wages, not exceeding one fourth, at the expiration of each six months of their contract, the balance being paid when the contract expires. The right of an immigrant to a free return passage is limited to a period of ten years after the date when the right first accrued. Provision is made for temporary employment on plantations other than that to which an immigrant is indentured.

No. V. "The Towns Amendment Ordinance, 1906" ; provides for appeals against valuations made under the principal Ordinance.

No. VIII. "The Indian Immigration Amendment Ordinance, 1906" ; limits the right of an Indian immigrant to a return passage to a period of two years after the date when the right first accrued.

No. X. "The Railway and Bridges Ordinance, 1906" ; provides summary punishment for unlawful damage to railways and bridges.

No. XI. "The Early Closing Ordinance, 1906" ; provides for the closing of shops (with certain exceptions) in the town of Suva at one o'clock on Saturday afternoons, and all day on public holidays. Shops in districts other than the town of Suva may be similarly closed by Order of the Governor in Council.

No. XIV. "The Sea-carriage of Goods Ordinance, 1906," is based on the Commonwealth Act, 1904, and states and imposes on shipping companies the conditions and duties incumbent on carriers under the Common Law.

No. XVI. "The Acquisition of Lands Ordinance, 1906"; enacts that the expression "public purposes" in "The Crown Acquisition of Lands Ordinance" and "The Native Lands Acquisition Ordinance, 1905," shall be deemed to include any undertaking, proposal, or policy which may appear to the Governor in Council desirable as directly benefiting the Colony.

No. XVII. "The Evidence Ordinance, 1906"; introduces into the Colony the principles contained in "The Evidence Act, 1898," of the Imperial Parliament.

No. XVIII. "The Interpretation Ordinance, 1906"; replaces the 1875 Ordinance by a fuller and more adequate enactment.

No. XXI. "The Fruit Export Ordinance, 1906"; provides for the regulation and control of the export of fruit from the Colony. Provision is made for the appointment of inspectors, and for the licensing of fruit exporters. Power is given to the Governor in Council to make regulations relating to the conditions to be observed by licensed fruit exporters.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Public Education Ordinance, 1890, provides for the election of School Boards within constituted districts (at present only Suva and Levuka are so constituted). The expenses of the Boards are paid out of the "School Fund" of each district, consisting (1) of an annual grant by Government on the average attendance, on a scale fixed by the Governor in Council, and (2) of a contribution from the rating authorities of the amount required for school purposes beyond the Government grant. Education is free to children within the school districts between six and fourteen years of age. The subjects of an ordinary education are taught. There are two aided public schools under these School Boards, one in Suva with five teachers and an attendance of 140·61, and one in Levuka with two teachers and 76·8 scholars. These schools are inspected annually by an Inspector from the Education Department of Victoria.

There are also three Roman Catholic schools for Europeans in the Colony with an average attendance of 133.

The education of the natives throughout the Group is almost entirely provided for by the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions. The former have 1,141 schools with 2,162 teachers and 17,118 scholars, and the latter 159 with 210 teachers and 1,880 scholars.

With a view to assisting in the higher education of the natives a school for native youths has been established by the Government in the vicinity of Suva. Accommodation is at present provided for 36 boys, and this number of boys between the ages of six and fourteen has been selected from the different provinces throughout the group. As English is to be the medium of instruction throughout the school it is given a most prominent position in the curriculum, and it is hoped that the majority of the

boys will soon acquire a knowledge of the language which will enable them to study the various subjects of an English elementary school programme.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

There is a Government Hospital at Suva under the charge of a Resident Medical Officer assisted by a Matron, two staff nurses, and four pupil nurses, the whole being supervised by the Chief Medical Officer. During 1906 there were 1,287 patients admitted to hospital, of whom 120 were Europeans. The revenue for the year amounted to £2,173 8s. 1d. and the expenditure to £3,035 18s. 5d. There are eight provincial hospitals for the treatment of native Fijians. They are under the charge of Government Medical Officers and are maintained by Government from public funds assisted by small grants from the funds of the provinces benefited. The number of patients admitted to these hospitals during 1906 was 2,499. There is also a provincial hospital at Rotuma under the charge of a Medical Officer who is also Resident Commissioner.

(B.) ASYLUMS.

The lunatic asylum at Suva is under the charge of a European warder. The Senior Medical Officer is superintendent. During 1906 there were 15 admissions, 6 discharges, and 2 deaths, leaving 29 inmates on 31st December, 1906.

There is a leper asylum on the Island of Beqa, on which the expenditure during 1906 amounted to £300 11s. 5d. The number of inmates on 31st December was 24.

There is a home for the aged and infirm at Suva under the management of the "Suva Relief Fund." The fund receives an annual grant of £100 from public funds.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

In 1906 the Police Force and the Armed Native Constabulary were amalgamated in one body called the Fiji Constabulary. Under this new scheme the Constabulary are under the charge of an Inspector-General and consist of 1 chief inspector, 8 European sub-inspectors, 1 pay-and-quartermaster, 4 native sub-inspectors, 15 native sergeants, 9 native corporals, 20 first-class native constables, 38 second-class native constables, 93 third-class native constables, 1 Indian sergeant, 4 first-class Indian constables, 5 second-class Indian constables, 6 third-class Indian constables, and 3 buglers. The cost of the force in 1906 was £9,152 13s. 1d. The force is primarily a police force, but in addition to their police duties the men are drilled and instructed in the use of arms.

(B.) PRISONS.

There are two gaols, one at Suva and one at Levuka, under the charge of the Superintendent of Prisons. There is also a gaol at each magistrate's station. Prisoners serving sentences exceeding three months, and in the case of certain adjacent districts one month, are sent to Suva gaol. The total number of prisoners admitted to Suva and Levuka gaols during 1906 was 839. Prisoners are employed on public works, roads, and as boats' crews.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The total number of offences reported to the Police during 1906 was 7,804. Of these, 1,046 were offences against the person, 610 larceny, 351 offences against property, and 5,797 other offences—chiefly breaches of the Labour Ordinances by indentured labourers.

Of the 7,804 cases reported, 1,353 were dismissed, 6,451 persons were dealt with by summary conviction, and 94 were committed to the Supreme Court. One person was executed for murder during the year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The following statement shows the estimated population at 31st December, 1906, as compared with the Census returns of 31st March, 1901:—

Class.	Census of 31st March, 1901.			Estimate on 31st December, 1906.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Europeans ...	1,531	928	2,459	2,023	1,239	3,262
Half-castes ...	759	757	1,516	863	823	1,688
Indians ...	11,353	5,752	17,105	18,800	9,740	28,540
Polynesians ...	1,584	366	1,950	1,812	348	2,160
Rotumans ...	1,036	1,194	2,230	1,125	1,186	2,311
Fijians ...	50,357	44,040	94,397	45,560	41,565	87,125
Others ...	254	213	467	247	207	454

The estimated native population on 31st December, 1905, was 86,093. During 1906 there were 3,291 births, and 3,259 deaths registered, showing for the second year in succession a net increase of population of 32. The birth-rate per mille was 37·77 and the death-rate 37·40. The birth-rate per mille amongst Europeans was 24·8 and the death-rate 12·2.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the Colony during the year was satisfactory, there having been no serious epidemic. 149 cases of dysentery (of which 19 were Europeans) were treated in the Colonial Hospital during this year. Ten cases of typhoid fever ;

occurred in the Labasa district, only one of which terminated fatally.

(C.) SANITATION.

Neither of the two European towns in the Colony has any system of sanitary drainage, the dry-earth system being used. The Town Boards of Suva and Levuka are paid sanitary grants of £200 and £100 respectively.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The total rainfall recorded at Suva during 1906 was 169·619 inches. The greatest daily rainfall was 26·50 inches on 8th August.

The highest temperature in the shade was 97·2° on 8th February, and the lowest 60° on 28th July.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE STATISTICS.

—	Internal.	External.				Total.
		United Kingdom.		Other Places.		
		From	To	From	To	
Letters and post-cards.	640,885	31,548	30,525	197,478	165,937	1,066,373
Newspapers ...	290,529	39,109	5,135	141,402	2,211	478,386
Book packets, &c...	50,796	9,726	2,084	26,239	6,486	95,331
Parcels ...	2,473	832	122	4,129	263	7,819
Telegrams ...	5,717	—	—	—	—	5,717
		Including registered ...		Despatched.		Received.
				12,873		9,871

Money Orders were issued and paid as follows during 1906:—

—				Issued in Colony.	Paid in Colony.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	...	...	...	2,837 12 5	368 11 1
Other Colonies and Foreign Countries				9,930 5 6	1,142 6 8
Within the Colony	...	...	*...	2,887 3 4	—
Total	...	...	...	15,655 1 3	1,510 17 9

An annual subsidy of £2,282 4s. 11d. is paid to the Canadian-Australian Steamship Company for the carriage of mails. An interinsular service is also subsidised to the extent of £3,500.

There is telegraphic communication between Suva and Levuka, a distance of 54 miles, of which 11½ is by cable. The total cost of construction was £3,370.

There is an overland telephone line from Suva to Lautoka (a distance of 125 miles) *via* Nausori, Nadarivatu, and Ba.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The Fiji Constabulary (formed by the amalgamation of the Police Force and the Armed Native Constabulary) are drilled and armed, and are available for military service if required.

The various rifle clubs in the Colony have been combined in a general Rifle Association, modelled on the system adopted in the Australian Colonies. The Association is under the charge of a supervising officer.

The expenditure for 1906 was £736 0s. 2d., the number of members being 188.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The possibilities for the investment of capital and the openings for settlement which this Colony offers are, it is feared, but imperfectly understood even in the neighbouring Dominions of New Zealand and Australia. With a view to making the Colony more widely known it was decided that a suitable exhibit should be sent to the New Zealand International Exhibition at Christchurch. The exhibit included curiosities and other articles of native manufacture, and samples of such products as sugar, copra, tea, coffee, cocoa, rubber, cassava, peanuts, cotton, fibres, ginger, turmeric, vanilla, pimento, &c. The exhibit was under the charge of a Commissioner, and a party of Fijian natives under the charge of an officer of the Native Department also attended the Exhibition.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

Beyond the immediate vicinity of the municipal boundaries of Suva and Levuka there are few roads fit for wheeled traffic. There is a metalled road from Suva to Rewa, a distance of 14 miles, and this road is continued, though only partly metalled, for some ten miles up the other side of the Rewa River. A road is in course of construction from Suva round the harbour to the sugar centre at Navua, a distance of some 32 miles. Bridle tracks exist almost everywhere. Owing to the insular nature of the Colony, the principal means of communication is by water. There is daily communication by means of steam launches between Suva and the sugar centres of Rewa and Navua. There is also a weekly service to Lautoka *via* Levuka and Ba. Communication between the islands is maintained by three steamers and a fleet of 162 sailing vessels, of which 91 are owned by natives.

IMMIGRATION.

In consequence of the uncertainty attending the system of calling for tenders for transport annually, and with the view of obtaining conveyance by steamer of immigrants from India at a reasonable rate of passage-money, a contract was entered into by the Government with the Colonial Sugar Refining Company for

a term of years, the contractors undertaking to provide steamers for transport of immigrants from India and of immigrants repatriated from this Colony to India, at a uniform rate of passage-money.

During 1906, 2,520 Indian immigrants were introduced from Calcutta and Madras, and 321 returns were repatriated. The average cost of introduction for the past five years is £15 10s. 6d. Indian immigrants come to the Colony for a term of ten years, the first five of which is under indenture. At the end of ten years an immigrant is entitled, with his wife and family, to a free passage to India at the expense of general revenue.

On 31st December, 1906, the estimated Indian population was 28,540, of whom 11,894 were under indenture. The estimated area of land under cultivation by free Indians was 10,167 acres.

During 1906, 246 (so-called) Polynesian immigrants were introduced from the Solomon Islands and New Hebrides, and 91 immigrants were returned to their homes. The Polynesian population on 31st December, 1906, was estimated at 2,162, of whom 437 were under indenture.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on public works during 1906 (exclusive of establishments) was £32,402 9s. 5d. The main items of expenditure were:—Maintenance and construction of public buildings, £11,930; new roads and upkeep of roads, £8,366; bridges, £3,251; water supplies to native villages, £1,302; reclamation, Suva, £1,467; Suva water supply extension, £1,063.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF TRADE.

At present the three staple exports, sugar, copra, and green fruit (chiefly bananas) represent 98 per cent. of the total export trade of the Colony. Such minor products as cocoa, rubber, fibres, &c., can be successfully grown, and there is room for considerable increase in their cultivation.

The climate, though warm and moist, is healthy and not unsuited to Europeans. Endemic malarial fever is unknown. Manual work is performed by coloured labour, Europeans being employed as overseers or skilled labourers.

The following are the average rates of wages:—Artisans, carpenters, and boatbuilders 14s. per diem; blacksmiths, £4 per week; overseers £2 to £5 per week.

The general condition of the Colony may be regarded as highly satisfactory. From the appended statement it will be seen that during the decennial period 1896–1906 there has been a very large and steady increase of general prosperity in almost every direction.

I have, &c.,

ARTHUR MAHAFFY,
Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX.
STATISTICAL COMPARISONS for the years ending
31st December, 1896 and 1906.

	1896	1906.	Increase or Decrease.*	
			Numerical.	Centesi- mal.
Population :—	No.	No.	No.	No.
Europeans	3,292†	3,262	—30	—0·9
Indians	10,433	28,542	18,109	173·6
Fijians	100,321	87,125	—13,196	—13·1
Others	6,454	6,613	159	2·4
Total... ..	120,500	125,085	4,585	3·8
Land under cultivation† ...	Acres. 39,402	Acres. 78,740	Acres. 39,338	Acres. 99·8
Live Stock :—	No.	No.	No.	No.
Horses and Mules	1,631	5,031	3,400	208·4
Cattle	12,558	34,793	22,235	177·0
Postal Money Orders issued...	£ —	£ 15,655	£ 15,655	£ —
Shipping :—	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Vessels Inward	115,470	213,065	97,595	84·5
Vessels Outward	115,586	205,025	89,439	77·3
Export of Fijian Produce :—				
Sugar—				
Quantity	27,334	38,522	11,188	40·9
Value	£ 336,929	£ 347,198	£ 10,269	£ 3·0
Copra—	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Quantity	5,487	9,772	4,285	78·0
Value	£ 48,950	£ 143,683	£ 94,733	£ 193·5
Green Fruit—	Bunches.	Bunches.	Bunches.	Bunches.
Quantity	207,352	604,617	397,265	191·5
	Cases. 34,934	Cases. 191,640	Cases. 156,706	Cases. 448·6
Value	£ 18,488	£ 97,678	£ 79,190	£ 428·3
Colonial Distilled Spirits—	Gals.	Gals.	Gals.	Gals.
Quantity	78,890	—	—78,890	—100
Value	£ 10,163	£ —	£ 10,163	£ —100
Total Export of Fijian Produce	430,130	598,357	168,227	39·1
Imports... ..	237,280	609,496	372,216	156·8
Revenue	73,869	158,387§	84,518	114·4
Expenditure	73,099	149,373	77,274	104·3
Public Debt	217,897	143,415	—74,482	—34·1

* Minus sign signifies decrease.

† The figures for 1896 are believed to be inaccurate. The Census returns for 1901 give the European population as 2,447.

‡ Excluding native food plantations.

§ Excluding an abnormal receipt of £27,037.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
518	Leeward Islands	1905-1906
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands... ..	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weibaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands... ..	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados... ..	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 580.

FIJI.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 548.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1908.



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By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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[Cd. 3729-44.] Price 2½d.

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No. 580.

FIJI.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 548.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Suva,

24th August, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copies of the Blue Book for 1907 together with a report thereon signed by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

2. The report, I think, well illustrates the satisfactorily progressive state of the Colony.

3. In the year under report the Customs Tariff was, as you are aware, amended, and it was anticipated that this would result in a slight loss of revenue. The anticipation has, however, not been realised, the reductions having been more than compensated by the increase in trade consequent on the rapid development of the Colony.

4. I may here allow myself to state that a further amendment of the Customs Tariff which has been made in the present year, from which it was again anticipated that some loss of revenue would result, has—as is already evident—not brought about that result. It may, I think, be assumed that the revenue of the Colony is not likely to decrease, unless as the result of catastrophies now unforeseen. It is also, in my opinion, satisfactory that the various funds pertaining to this Government have now been consolidated, and that the financial position of the Colony may now be ascertained at a glance.

5. Now that the financial resources of Fiji are fairly definitely ascertained, the most important administrative task is to consider and decide how far, and in what way, these resources may best be used for extraordinary public works tending to the remunerative development of the Colony.

I have, &c.,

EVERARD IM THURN.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,

Secretary of State for the Colonies.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR 1907.

I have the honour to submit the following report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1907:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

The amount of revenue received under the various heads for the years 1907 and 1906 is shown in the following statement:—

Head of Revenue.	1907.			1906.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	107,135	0	1	99,593	18	2
Port, Wharfage, and Light-house Dues	9,100	19	0	8,155	11	6
Native Taxes	16,397	2	9	16,309	10	0
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue, not otherwise classified ...	15,911	1	7	11,854	8	2
Fees of Court or Office, Payments for Specific Services, and Reimbursements in aid	12,223	5	4	11,591	5	7
Post Office	4,958	6	4	4,527	7	2
Rent of Government Property	1,757	11	7	867	10	6
Interest	4,587	10	7	3,863	19	11
Miscellaneous	2,023	17	1	1,595	6	9
Land Sales	10	0	0	28	0	0
"Polynesian Return Passage Fund" transferred...	—			27,037	2	0
"Indian Settlements Fund" transferred	5,697	4	2	—		

The following is a statement of the expenditure under the various heads for the years 1907 and 1906:—

Head of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure, 1907.			Actual Expenditure, 1906.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Charges on Account of Public Debt	13,241	0	0	13,252	5	0
Pensions	4,066	6	5	3,361	7	4
The Governor and Legislature	3,933	11	3	3,737	15	1
Colonial Secretary's Department	2,320	1	2	2,313	1	0
Carried forward ...	23,560	18	10	22,664	8	5

Expenditure for the Years 1907 and 1906—cont.

Head of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure, 1907.			Actual Expenditure, 1906.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	23,560	18	10	22,664	8	5
Government Printing Office ...	2,574	18	9	2,574	14	9
Audit Department ...	783	5	0	826	10	8
Postal Department ...	8,945	18	11	8,344	7	2
Native Department ...	8,320	1	9	7,915	8	3
Treasury ...	2,801	15	1	2,145	16	10
Customs Department ...	4,973	5	1	4,510	8	2
Port and Marine Department ...	2,944	2	5	2,739	16	6
Immigration Department...	7,045	16	7	4,895	2	7
Judicial and Legal Departments ...	11,251	15	4	11,087	12	6
Fiji Constabulary ...	9,870	15	0	9,152	13	1
Volunteer Corps ...	2,100	10	3	736	0	2
Prisons Department ...	4,380	8	1	4,418	15	3
Medical Department ...	12,737	2	10	12,143	3	5
Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, and Leper Asylum ...	3,443	8	1	3,482	10	2
Education ...	1,954	4	2	1,457	2	9
Transport ...	5,219	13	9	4,920	19	9
Agricultural Department...	3,687	19	2	3,259	1	1
Miscellaneous ...	2,709	5	2	2,802	12	8
Lands Department ...	4,970	10	10	4,458	4	11
Works Department ...	2,279	9	3	2,435	16	4
Public Works, Annually Recurrent ...	10,817	17	4	7,474	7	5
	137,373	1	8	124,445	12	10
Public Works, Extraordinary	19,438	6	4	24,928	2	0
Total ...	156,811	8	0	149,373	14	10

The total revenue and expenditure during each of the past five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1903 ...	138,166	16	11	113,341	7	10
1904 ...	139,404	16	0	158,166	16	11
1905 ...	192,974	15	2	132,043	2	6
1906 ...	185,423	19	9	149,373	14	10
1907 ...	179,801	18	6	156,811	8	0

In the years 1905, 1906, and 1907 extraordinary receipts are included, representing the amounts of the Indian Return

Passages Fund, the Polynesian Return Passages Fund, and the Indian Settlements Fund transferred to general revenue. Excluding these extraordinary amounts thus brought to credit the normal revenues for the three years in question amount to £136,620, £158,386, and £174,104 respectively. The principal increase in revenue for 1907, as compared with 1906, was under the head of Customs (£7,541 1s. 11d.) and is due to improvement in trade and the increased prosperity of the Colony.

The Customs Tariff passed in 1898 was repealed by Ordinance No. VIII. of 1907. The new tariff provides for a redistribution of customs dues, the net loss of revenue being estimated at £628. The specific duty on boots and shoes, boxes and trunks, drapery (cotton in the piece), and hats and caps has been altered to an *ad valorem* duty, the loss to revenue being estimated at £6,083. The duty on kerosene oil was reduced from 9d. to 6d. per gallon and fencing wire placed on the free list. The duty on drapery was increased from 12½ per cent. to 15 per cent. These reductions were met by an increase of duty on rice, butter and ghee, galvanised iron, matches, bags and sacks, and other minor items.

The excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1907, amounted to £168,026. Of this sum £123,415 is invested in stocks, and £35,000 placed at interest by the Crown Agents. The excess of assets has been largely increased during the past three years by the transfer to public funds of the accumulated balances of the funds created for the repatriation of Indian and Polynesian labourers, the Colony having assumed the liability which these funds were created to meet.

The Public Debt of the Colony on 31st December, 1907, stood as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Imperial loan (without interest) ...	55,815	1	3
Debentures (bearing interest at 4½ per cent.)	78,100	0	0
	£133,915	1	3

The Imperial loan is being repaid at the rate of £5,000 per annum. A sum of £1,500 per annum is applied to the redemption of debentures, the interest on debentures so redeemed being applied to the further reduction of the debt. During 1907 the public debt was reduced by £9,500.

The legal tender currency and the only coin in circulation is British sterling. There is no Government note issue. The Bank of New Zealand has branches at Suva and Levuka, and the Bank of New South Wales a branch at Suva. Both banks have a private note issue, the amount in circulation being estimated at £4,802.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure during each of the last five years, of the Suva and Levuka Town and School Boards:—

Year.	Suva Town Board.		Levuka Town Board	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1903	2,051	2,009	919	1,296
1904	2,247	2,808	1,451	2,042
1905	2,968	3,069	1,452	1,065
1906	2,727	3,031	1,263	1,374
1907	2,812	2,857	1,135	1,129

Year.	Suva School Board.		Levuka School Board.	
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£
1903	1,034	1,094	711	603
1904	1,099	1,309	605	694
1905	1,106	1,065	665	651
1906	1,007	842	628	646
1907	1,017	964	730	660

The debt of the Suva Town Board consists of a debenture loan of £2,000, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and repayable at the rate of £100 per annum. The loan was raised to provide a portion of the cost of construction of a Town Hall (£1,200), and the renewal of two bridges (£800). On 31st December, 1907, the debt stood at £1,700. The debt of the Levuka Town Board consists of a debenture loan of £500, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and repayable at the rate of £50 per annum. The debt stood at £350 on 31st December, 1907.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The following statement shows the value of the principal items of import during the years 1906 and 1907:—

Nature of Import.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Bacon and Hams	2,154	2,661
Bags and Sugar-mats	12,601	19,950

Nature of Import.	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Beer	4,411	5,115
Books	1,424	1,884
Boots and Shoes	5,214	7,396
Breadstuffs and Biscuits	39,062	40,873
Bran and Pollard	3,916	4,966
Butter and Ghee	10,762	12,318
Cement	4,218	3,573
Coal	17,788	25,557
Cordage	3,117	4,403
Cutlery	2,828	4,904
Drapery	100,545	118,214
Drugs	4,870	6,086
Fish	6,145	9,085
Furniture	3,624	3,796
Galvanised Iron and Goods	13,831	11,546
Glassware and Crockery	2,814	3,289
Hardware	45,184	44,738
Iron—bar, rod, sheet, rails, and pipes	17,813	29,555
Jewellery	3,093	3,742
Leatherware	5,467	5,204
Live Stock	40,580	7,210
Machinery	53,795	39,451
Machinery—Agricultural	10,505	5,893
Manure	12,993	7,020
Meats	14,686	14,672
Oils	14,959	21,942
Paints	2,812	4,488
Rice	14,754	11,452
Ship Chandlery	2,314	2,893
Soap	1,780	1,133
Spirits	7,582	8,768
Stationery	5,262	5,661
Sugar	4,797	3,865
Timber	26,556	28,008
Tobacco	5,564	6,923
Vegetables and Green Fruit	6,728	4,992
Wines	2,625	3,014

The items showing increases of note are bags and sugar-mats, coal, drapery, fish, iron, and oils.

The increase in the importation of drapery is due mainly to the increased purchasing power of the native owing to the high price obtained for coprah, and to an increase in the rents and proceeds of sale of native lands. The increases under the heads of bags and sugar-mats, coal, and iron, are accounted for by the continued extension of the sugar industry.

The staple products of the Colony and the principal items of export are sugar, coprah, and green fruit (chiefly bananas).

The quantity and value of the principal exports during the past five years are given in the following statement:—

Year.	Sugar.		Coprah.		Green Fruit.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	£
1903	46,438	406,318	8,526	91,050	32,162
1904	52,138	469,391	7,406	86,140	22,102
1905	58,488	539,594	10,200	125,892	28,996
1906	38,523	347,198	9,772	143,683	97,678
1907	66,597	602,820	11,290	182,788	79,871

The export of sugar for 1907 shows an increase of 28,074 tons, as compared with 1906, but only exceeds the export for 1905 by 8,109 tons. The decrease in 1906 was occasioned by a drought in 1905.

The value of green fruit exported shows a decrease of £17,806, as compared with the figures for 1906, the increased exportation in that year being mainly due to the destruction of the banana crop in Queensland by a hurricane.

The principal minor exports are turtle-shell (£1,609), hides and pelts (£1,285), bark (£1,246), cocoanuts (£1,136), molasses (£2,507), and tea (£1,370).

The following table shows the value of the total imports and exports for the past five years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1903	489,095	554,707
1904	439,995	589,990
1905	442,852	706,403
1906	609,496	603,410
1907	643,007	881,364

The amount of Customs duties levied on imports during each of the past five years was as follows:—

Year.	Customs Duties Levied.
	£
1903	84,136
1904	81,967
1905	82,725
1906	99,594
1907	107,078

The bulk of the import trade is done with Sydney, and it is therefore not possible to obtain accurate information as to the

importation of British and foreign goods. As far as can be ascertained the importation of the following classes of goods is increasing steadily and is replacing goods of British manufacture:—from Germany—grass and crockery, hardware, drapery (cotton and woollen), and furniture; from Belgium—hardware and nails; from Japan and the East—drapery, wickerware, matting, and silk.

No systematic attempt has as yet been made to prospect for minerals in this Colony, though traces of gold have been found on the islands of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, and it is believed that copper exists on both these islands.

The following statement gives the particulars available as to the various mills, &c., established in the Colony and the nominal daily output:—

—	No.	Aggregate nominal daily output.
Sugar mills	6	420 tons dried sugar.
Tea factory	1	400 lb. dried tea.
Boatbuilding yards	14	
Soapworks	1	9 cwt. soap.
Sawmills	4	

The cultivation of sugar, coprah, and green fruit (chiefly bananas) at present form the staple agricultural industries of the Colony. There are six sugar mills in operation in the Colony, of which four are owned by the Colonial Sugar Refining Company, Limited, of Sydney. The total area of land under cane cultivation is estimated at 39,464 acres, from which were produced in 1907, 584,686 tons of sugar cane. The area under cocoanuts is estimated at 28,634 acres, but this represents European cultivation only, no returns of the area cultivated by natives being furnished. The total quantity of coprah (the dried kernel of the cocoanut) exported during 1907 was 11,290 tons, valued at £182,788.

The area under bananas and pineapples was 3,477 acres, but this does not include native cultivation. Considerable areas of bananas are cultivated by natives, who sell their produce to European agents for shipment. An Inspector of fruit was appointed in January, 1907, whose duty it is, under the Fruit Export Ordinance, to supervise the export fruit trade. A considerable improvement in the quality of fruit exported has resulted from this appointment.

A Department of Agriculture was established in 1905 under the charge of a Superintendent, Mr. C. H. Knowles, B.Sc. There are two experimental stations connected with the department, one at Nasinu, about nine miles from Suva (area 112 acres), and the other at Lautoka (area 110 acres), the former being situated in a wet, and the latter in a dry,

district. At Nasinu experiments are being made in the cultivation of rubber, cocoa, coffee, cloves, pepper, cinnamon, nutmegs, fibres, bananas, &c. Half a mile of Caillet portable tram-line was obtained for this station and is found to be easily laid and worked by unskilled labour. At the Lautoka station the chief crop was Sea Island cotton. The lint obtained was shipped to the British Cotton Growing Association, and the broker's report is as follows:—

“Clean, very bright, staple long, rather wanting in fineness, fairly strong, valued 16*d*.”

Maize, rice, peanuts, sisal hemp, &c., are also being experimented with. There is a small factory in Suva under the department, equipped with a Macarthy cotton gin, a Death and Ellwood fibre machine, and a brushing machine.

There is a good opening in this Colony for the cultivation of such minor products as hemp, ginger, limes, spices, tobacco, &c. The cultivation of rubber has hitherto hardly been attempted, but the results obtained at the experimental stations, and on at least two plantations, indicate that this valuable product can be successfully cultivated. The growth of the existing trees shows that conditions are favourable to both the Para and Ceara species, though the trees of the latter variety are more liable to damage from high winds. Large areas of land suitable for rubber cultivation can be obtained at reasonable rates.

The total area of Crown land in the Colony is estimated at 32,600 acres. The area of land held by Europeans under grant is 459,780 acres. In addition to the Crown land mentioned above, the Government has secured on a 99 years' lease some 52,000 acres of land in the province of Bua suitable for grazing and, in parts, for cocoanut and rubber cultivation. Some 50,000 acres in Macuata Province and 100,000 acres in the province of Nadroga and Colo West have also been acquired.

The following statement shows the total area of native land leased or purchased during 1907:—

	Area.	Rent or Price.
	Acres.	£
Total defined land leased	9,247	1,696
Total land leased not yet surveyed ...	25,958	891
Purchases	19,201	22,243
Grants	4,359	—
Total	58,765	24,830

Particulars regarding the number, nationality, and tonnage of the steam and sailing vessels entered and cleared at the

ports of the Colony during 1906 and 1907 are given in the following table:—

Nationality.	Description.	Entered.				Cleared.			
		1907.		1906.		1907.		1906.	
British ...	Steam	No. 133	Tons. 207,149	No. 143	Tons. 227,235	No. 128	Tons. 202,727	No. 135	Tons. 224,075
" ...	Sailing	11	2,988	8	886	9	1,136	9	2,257
American ...	"	1	642	—	—	2	1,162	—	—
Norwegian	"	3	2,286	—	—	—	—	1	176

The following statement shows the total shipping entered and cleared during the past five years:—

Year.			Entered.	Cleared.	Total.
			Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1903	...	...	169,139	168,069	336,208
1904	...	...	183,761	175,000	358,761
1905	...	...	194,299	193,102	387,401
1906	...	...	213,065	205,625	418,690
1907	...	...	228,121	227,108	455,229

III.—LEGISLATION.

The following are the principal Ordinances passed during 1907:—

No. IV. The Government Savings Bank Ordinance. Provides for the establishment of a Government Savings Bank. Interest at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is allowed. The total amount a depositor is allowed to have standing in his name is £200.

No. IV. The Indian Immigration Amendment Ordinance. Provision is made for punishing by fine or imprisonment, or both, employers and other persons having control of indentured immigrants for assaults on such immigrants. The penalty for desertion is increased from a fine not exceeding £2 or two months imprisonment to one not exceeding £5 or three months' imprisonment. After three convictions for desertion the penalty is increased to peremptory imprisonment for any term not exceeding six months.

No. X. The Contagious Diseases (Animal) Ordinance provides for the appointment of inspectors of stock. The Governor in Council is empowered to make regulations for dealing with diseases in stock.

No. XII. The Roads Ordinance. Makes provision for the construction, upkeep, and maintenance of roads throughout the Colony.

No. XIII. The Pensions Ordinance. Repeals previously existing pension regulations and brings the conditions relating to pensions into line with those prevailing in other Colonies.

No. XIV. The Lepers Amendment Ordinance; provides compulsory powers for the segregation and detention of lepers.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Public Education Ordinance, 1890, provides for the election of School Boards within constituted districts (at present only Suva and Levuka are so constituted). The expenses of the Boards are paid out of the "School Fund" of each district, consisting (1) of an annual grant by Government on the average attendance on a scale fixed by the Governor in Council, and (2) of a contribution from the rating authorities of the amount required for school purposes beyond the Government grant. Education is free to children within the school districts between six and fourteen years of age. The subjects of an ordinary education are taught. There are two aided public schools under these School Boards, one in Suva with five teachers, and an attendance of 120·47, and one in Levuka with two teachers and 66·3 scholars. These schools are inspected annually by an Inspector from the Education Department of Victoria.

A grant of £1,500 has been made from general revenue to provide for the establishment of a boarding-house in connection with the Levuka school.

There are also three Roman Catholic schools for Europeans in the Colony with an average attendance of 174.

The education of the natives throughout the group is almost entirely provided for by the Wesleyan and Roman Catholic Missions. The former have 1,102 schools with 2,168 teachers and 17,039 scholars, and the latter 159 with 218 teachers and 1,695 scholars.

With a view to assisting in the higher education of the natives a school for native youths has been established by the Government in the vicinity of Suva. Accommodation is at present provided for 35 boys, and this number of boys between the ages of six and fourteen has been selected from the different provinces throughout the group. As English is to be the medium of instruction throughout the school it is given a most prominent position in the curriculum, and it is hoped that the majority of the boys will soon acquire a knowledge of the language which will enable them to study the various subjects of an English elementary school programme.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There is a Government Hospital at Suva under the charge of a Resident Medical Officer, assisted by a matron, two staff nurses, and four pupil nurses, the whole being supervised by the Chief Medical Officer. During 1907 there were 1,676 patients admitted to hospital, of whom 132 were Europeans. The revenue for the year amounted to £1,845, and the expenditure to £2,838. There are eight provincial hospitals for the treatment of native Fijians. They are under the charge of Government Medical Officers, and are maintained by Government from public funds assisted by small grants from the funds of the provinces benefited. The number of patients admitted to these hospitals during 1907 was 3,159. There is also a provincial hospital at Rotuma under the charge of a Medical Officer who is also Resident Commissioner.

The lunatic asylum at Suva is under the charge of a European warder. The Senior Medical Officer is superintendent. During 1907 there were 17 admissions, 12 discharges, and 10 deaths, leaving 24 inmates on 31st December, 1907.

There is a leper asylum on the island of Beqa, on which the expenditure during 1907 amounted to £306. The number of inmates on 31st December was 39.

There is a home for the aged and infirm at Suva under the management of the "Suva Relief Fund." The fund receives an annual grant of £100 from public funds.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Fiji constabulary is under the charge of an Inspector-General, and consists of 4 European inspectors, 4 sub-inspectors, 1 pay-and-quartermaster, 4 native sub-inspectors, 15 native sergeants, 9 native corporals, 20 first-class native constables, 38 second-class native constables, 93 third-class native constables, 1 Indian sergeant, 4 first-class Indian constables, 5 second-class Indian constables, 9 third-class Indian constables, and 3 buglers. The cost of the force in 1907 was £9,870 15s. The force is primarily a police force, but in addition to their police duties the men are drilled and instructed in the use of arms.

There are two gaols, one at Suva and one at Levuka, under the charge of the Superintendent of Prisons. There is also a gaol at each magistrate's station. Prisoners serving sentence exceeding three months, and in the case of certain adjacent districts one month, are sent to Suva gaol. The total number of prisoners admitted to Suva and Levuka gaols during 1907

was 902. Prisoners are employed on public works, roads, and as boats' crews.

The total of offences reported to the police during 1907 was 7,312. Of these, 997 were offences against the person, 524 larceny, 282 offences against property, and 5,509 other offences—chiefly breaches of the Labour Ordinances by indentured labourers.

Of the 7,312 cases reported, 2,074 were dismissed, 5,238 persons were dealt with by summary conviction, and 79 were committed to the Supreme Court. Three persons were executed for murder during the year.

VII—VITAL STATISTICS.

The following statement shows the estimated population at 31st December, 1907, as compared with the census returns of 31st March, 1901:—

Class.	Census of 31st March, 1901.			Estimate on 31st December, 1906.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Europeans ...	1,531	928	2,459	2,044	1,275	3,319
Half-castes ...	759	757	1,516	881	834	1,715
Indians ...	11,353	5,752	17,105	20,326	10,594	30,920
Polynesians ...	1,584	366	1,950	2,268	353	2,621
Rotumans ...	1,036	1,194	2,230	1,154	1,166	2,320
Fijians ...	50,357	44,040	94,397	45,544	41,485	87,029
Others ...	254	213	467	275	205	480

The estimated native population on 31st December, 1906, was 87,125. During 1907 there were 3,310 births and 3,407 deaths registered, showing a net decrease of population of 97. The statistics for the two previous years showed increases of 32 and 133. The birth-rate per mille was 38·03, and the death-rate 39·14. The birth-rate per mille amongst Europeans was 26·5 and the death-rate 12·3.

The general health of the Colony during the year was satisfactory, there having been no serious epidemic.

Neither of the two European towns in the Colony has any system of sanitary drainage, the dry-earth system being used. The Town Boards of Suva and Levuka are paid sanitary grants of £200 and £100 respectively. The question of improving the sanitary system of Suva is at present under consideration.

The total rainfall recorded at Suva during 1907 was 147·493 inches. The greatest daily rainfall was 12·107 inches on 18th December.

The highest temperature in the shade was 90·9 on 8th January, and the lowest 59·0 on 31st July.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE STATISTICS.

—	Internal.	External.				Total.
		United Kingdom.		Other Places.		
		From	To	From	To	
Letters and post-cards.	678,069	23,085	32,670	278,368	280,345	1,292,537
Newspapers ...	239,956	38,054	5,965	136,960	26,925	447,860
Book packets, &c.	45,834	7,963	1,490	36,797	6,298	98,382
Parcels ...	2,014	808	153	4,022	369	7,366
Telegrams ...	6,063	—	—	—	—	6,063
Including registered ...		Despatched.		Received.		
		10,968		10,444		

Money Orders were issued and paid as follows during 1907:—

	Issued in Colony.			Paid in Colony.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom ...	4,546	5	9	396	10	7
Other Colonies and Foreign Countries	13,393	14	6	1,862	7	4
Within the Colony ...	4,366	15	5	—		
Total ...	£22,306	15	8	£2,258	17	11

An annual subsidy of £2,282 4s. 11d. is paid to the Canadian-Australian Steamship Company for the carriage of mails. Interinsular services are also subsidised to the extent of £3,500.

There is telegraphic communication between Suva and Levuka, a distance of 54 miles, of which 11½ is by cable. The total cost of construction was £3,370.

There is an overland telephone line from Suva to Lautoka (a distance of 125 miles) *via* Nausori, Nadarivatu, and Ba.

The establishment of a system of wireless telegraphy between Suva and Vanualevu is under consideration. The cost is estimated at £11,000.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Colony was represented at the New Zealand International Exhibition at Christchurch. The exhibit included curiosities and other articles of native manufacture, and samples of such products as sugar, coprah, tea, coffee, cocoa, rubber, cassava, peanuts, cotton, fibres, ginger, &c. The cost of the exhibit was £958. There can be no doubt that the exhibit has had excellent results in drawing attention to the possibilities for investment of capital and openings for settlement which this Colony offers.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION.

There is regular and frequent steam communication between the Colony and Sydney and Auckland.

Beyond the immediate vicinity of the municipal boundaries of Suva and Levuka there are few roads fit for wheeled traffic. There is a metalled road from Suva to Rewa, a distance of 12 miles, and this road is continued, though only partly metalled, for some 10 miles up the other side of the Rewa river. A road is in course of construction from Suva round the harbour to the sugar centre at Navua, a distance of 32 miles. Bridle tracks exist almost everywhere. Owing to the insular nature of the Colony, the principal means of communication is by water. There is daily communication by means of steam launches between Suva and the sugar centres of Rewa and Navua. There is also a weekly service to Lautoka, *via* Levuka and Ba. Communication between the islands is maintained by three steamers and a fleet of 198 sailing vessels, of which 120 are owned by natives.

IMMIGRATION.

During 1907, 2,466 Indian immigrants were introduced from Calcutta and 641 returns were repatriated. The average cost of introduction for the past five years is £16.

Indian immigrants come to the Colony for a term of ten years, the first five of which is under indenture. At the end of ten years an immigrant is entitled, with his wife and family, to a free passage to India at the expense of general revenue.

On 31st December, 1907, the estimated Indian population was 32,201, of whom 11,689 were under indenture. The estimated area of land under cultivation by free Indians was 17,204 acres.

During 1907, 221 (so-called) Polynesian immigrants were introduced from the Solomon Islands and New Hebrides, and 66 immigrants were returned to their homes.

Under an arrangement entered into with the Government of the Australian Commonwealth, 351 Polynesians introduced into Queensland under provision of the Pacific Labourers' Act, and subject to compulsory repatriation under the recent Commonwealth legislation, were engaged for service in this Colony, were embarked in Brisbane, and arrived by steamers of the Canadian-Australian Royal Mail Line. Only male adults were engaged. The term of agreement was for a period of two years under indenture, at a rate of £14 per annum wages, and subject to an increased scale of rations and clothing equivalent to that provided under the Queensland Act.

The physical character of the immigrants passed as fit for indenture appeared above the average, and well suited for plantation work. Many of the arrivals from Queensland stated that they had resided in that State for a long time, some of them for twenty years, and, on inquiry being made, seemed to have a general knowledge of various employments which should render them of value in this Colony.

The total sum advanced by the Government to employers to cover a proportion of the cost of introduction of Polynesian immigrants allotted to them, subject to repayment by half-yearly instalments and security, was £1,718 15s. advanced to twelve employers.

The Polynesian immigrant population, inclusive of children born in the Colony, appears to consist of males, 2,268; females, 353; total 2,621.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on public works during 1907 (exclusive of establishments) was £30,256. The main items of expenditure were:—Maintenance and construction of public buildings, £9,458; new roads and upkeep of roads, £10,597; bridges, £1,749; water supplies to native villages, £2,105.

FUTURE PROSPECTS.

The general condition of the Colony may be regarded as highly satisfactory. The imports and exports have largely increased during the past few years, and there is every indication that this increase will be continued. The large areas of land which the Government have secured from the natives

and thrown open for lease should considerably facilitate settlement.

At present the three staple exports, sugar, coprah, and green fruit (chiefly bananas) represent 98 per cent. of the total export trade of the Colony. Such minor products as cocoa, rubber, fibres, &c., can be successfully grown, and there is room for considerable increase in their cultivation.

The climate, though warm and moist, is healthy, and not unsuited to Europeans. Endemic malarial fever is unknown. Manual work is performed by coloured labour, Europeans being employed as overseers or skilled labourers.

The following are the average rates of wages:—Artisans, carpenters, and boatbuilders, 14s. per diem; blacksmiths, £4 per week; overseers, £2 to £5 per week.

I have, &c.,

WM. SUTHERLAND,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.							
No.	Colony, &c.						Year.
546	Grenada ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
547	Mauritius ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906
548	Fiji ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
549	Jamaica ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
550	British Guiana ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
551	Northern Nigeria ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
552	British Honduras ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906
553	St. Lucia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906
555	St. Vincent ...	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
556	Basutoland ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
557	East Africa Protectorate ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
558	Uganda Protectorate ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
559	Swaziland ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
560	St. Helena ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907
561	Ceylon ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
562	Falkland Islands... ..	...	...	...	...	...	"
563	Gibraltar ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
564	Ashanti ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907
567	Seychelles... ..	...	...	...	...	...	"
568	Bermuda ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
569	Weihaiwei ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
570	Hong Kong ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
571	Malta ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
572	British Honduras ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907
573	Gold Coast ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
575	Bahamas ...	...	...	...	...	...	"
576	Gambia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907
577	St. Vincent ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands ...	...	...	...	...	...	1907
579	St. Lucia ...	...	...	...	...	...	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.		Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies	...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	...	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-08.
64	Newfoundland	...	Governor's visit to Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	...	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	...	Salt Industry.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 536.

GAMBIA.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 491.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

August, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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1907.

[Cd. 3729.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 536.

G A M B I A.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 491.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Bathurst, Gambia.

24th July, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book of the Gambia for the year 1906.

2. The following is my Report on it.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

3. The revenue for the year was £65,430. The figures given below shew that it exceeded that of any other year by £9,866.

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	£		£
1895	20,560	1901	43,725
1896	26,171	1902	51,015
1897	39,414	1903	55,564
1898	46,717	1904	54,179
1899	46,839	1905	51,868
1900	49,160	1906	65,430

4. The increase may be ascribed to various reasons, but the principal factor was, undoubtedly, the high price paid for the groundnuts exported during the year. Though the quantity was not so large as in 1903 and 1904, the amount received by the producer was fully 50 per cent. more than in those years. Another cause is to be found in the fact that there was a very considerable distribution of groundnut seed in 1906, amounting to 701 tons, and that, in anticipation of a very large export of nuts in 1907, the merchants imported an unusually large supply of goods.

5. The following table shews the heads of revenue under which the principal increases will be found, and gives the increase in each case, and there is also a table shewing the amounts collected under each head for the past four years:—

—	1905.	1906.	Increase.
Customs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ad Valorem	4,593 5 11	6,755 17 3	2,162 11 4
Import duty on Wine ...	798 4 6	1,076 5 5	278 4 6
Import duty on Spirits ...	3,877 12 0	9,842 8 0	5,964 16 0
Import duty on Sugar ...	1,861 13 11	2,844 19 11	983 6 0
Import duty on Kola Nuts ...	6,820 4 9	9,812 6 10	2,992 2 1
Import duty on Rice ...	1,345 12 0	3,041 7 0	1,695 15 0
Export duty on Goundnuts ...	9,832 18 9	12,016 14 1	2,183 15 4
Licences, Excise, etc.			
Spirit Licences	1,276 0 0	1,484 0 0	208 0 0

Amounts Collected for the past Four Years.

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Customs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Ad Valorem	5,317 10 9	5,370 11 7	4,593 5 11	6,755 17 3
Import duty on Wine ...	921 9 1	811 17 8	798 4 6	1,076 5 5
Import duty on Spirits ...	4,339 19 8	4,113 6 0	3,877 12 0	9,842 8 0
Import duty on Sugar ...	2,586 11 4	2,251 2 0	1,861 13 11	2,844 19 11
Import duty on Kola Nuts ..	6,746 11 4	6,808 15 10	6,820 4 9	9,812 6 10
Import duty on Rice ...	1,259 16 8	1,343 7 8	1,345 12 0	3,041 7 0
Export duty on Groundnuts	15,158 4 2	14,478 19 6	9,832 18 9	12,016 14 1
Licenses, Excise, etc.				
Spirit Licences	824 0 0	1,046 0 0	1,276 0 0	1,484 0 0

Expenditure.

6. The expenditure for the year was £56,899, as against an estimate of £57,502, and was £8,531 below the revenue.

7. The following table gives the expenditure for the past twelve years:—

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
	£		£
1895	28,867	1901	48,518
1896	25,300	1902	51,534
1897	27,058	1903	67,504
1898	29,035	1904	52,300
1899	30,404	1905	72,297
1900	29,817	1906	56,988

8. In explanation of the heavy expenditure in 1903 and 1905, I may mention that in the first-named year a charge from the War Office of £10,153 in connection with the expedition of 1901 was brought to account, whilst in the latter the purchase of dredging plant is responsible for £4,483, and the strengthening and extension of the jetty for £6,459. Again, in 1905, under "Other Charges," the cost of a new steamer—amounting to £7,271—will be found.

9. The following table gives the amount expended under the different votes for the past four years:—

Vote.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Pensions	730 11 4	1,002 14 9	1,044 10 9	917 0 11
The Governor	2,885 14 9	3,466 4 10	3,922 14 3	3,448 18 0
The Colonial Secretary	1,167 5 5	1,191 6 8	1,202 1 5	1,165 19 0
The Protectorate	5,779 3 8	5,149 10 10	7,852 11 8	5,885 4 0
Printing Department	621 10 7	372 8 1	294 18 8	227 3 4
Treasury	1,010 16 2	1,109 6 4	1,183 12 9	1,043 5 10
Customs Department	1,927 1 3	2,069 12 0	2,076 17 0	2,159 8 5
Post Office	620 5 10	671 0 9	898 4 9	712 15 10
Audit Department	504 12 9	577 0 11	596 0 7	478 18 1
Judicial Department	1,224 18 9	1,252 12 6	1,242 15 11	1,341 14 0
Attorney-General	512 6 9	499 1 7	470 4 9	456 8 6
Frontier Force	5,744 9 0	5,388 3 7	6,090 12 9	5,543 7 7
Police	4,323 13 2	4,105 18 2	4,079 3 3	3,927 0 0
Prisons	766 7 1	726 6 0	702 15 4	693 8 5
Medical Department	2,200 18 0	2,851 2 11	2,980 18 4	3,139 13 7
Hospitals and Dispensaries	818 0 11	917 15 10	959 8 6	1,104 0 11
Government Vessels	2,272 3 1	2,355 4 1	1,960 8 9	2,802 16 11
Charitable Allowances	60 19 0	101 9 4	101 7 11	107 12 0
Education	848 18 6	1,123 0 11	1,325 12 7	739 14 0
Transport	897 8 9	272 9 4	334 2 3	394 4 10
Miscellaneous Services	2,501 3 2	2,388 6 0	3,161 0 0	3,617 18 1
Drawback	32 15 7	309 14 6	79 9 7	152 11 0
Agriculture	586 15 8	738 16 10	391 12 11	336 10 5
Colonial Engineer's Department	1,531 17 11	1,651 5 6	1,700 3 2	1,716 9 7
Public Works—Recurrent	5,223 10 6	4,790 3 2	4,001 15 4	3,758 12 10
Public Works—Extraordinary	11,710 2 5	4,858 11 1	16,074 5 4	7,738 13 0
Special Services	11,002 7 11	2,364 8 5	7,054 18 3	3,190 11 7

(B.) TAXATION.

10. By Ordinance No. I of 1906 the duty on kola nuts was increased from twopence to threepence per pound, and that on unmanufactured tobacco from threepence to fourpence per pound. There were no other changes in the incidence of taxation during the year.

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

11. The credit balance carried forward on the 31st December, 1905, was £28,704 4s. 4d. On the 31st December, 1906, it had risen to £34,582 17s. 11d. During the year securities standing in the Colonial Books as worth £25,969 were sold, and only realised £23,505; there was, therefore, a loss on this transaction of £2,464.

12. The Colony at the end of the year had a credit balance of £1,056 with the Crown Agents.

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

13. The Colony has no public debt.

(E.) CURRENCY.

14. As has been previously reported, the currency of the Colony is British sterling and the French five-franc piece. English and French gold are also legal tenders, but are little used.

15. Below is a return showing the amount and denomination of the different moneys paid into the Bank of British West Africa by the Government:—

Statement showing Moneys Paid into the Bank of British West Africa by Government Departments during 1904, 1905, and 1906.

Year.	Bank Notes.	English Gold.	French Gold.	Five-franc pieces.	Cheques.	Other English Coins.	Total.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1904 ..	—	7,416 0 0	5 15 6	8,263 8 9	16,594 8 5	21,107 13 4	53,327 6 0
1905 ..	—	5,882 0 0	11 17 6	4,408 13 6	17,821 17 6	23,574 2 9	49,693 11 3
1906 ..	—	699 0 0	2 7 6	5,379 7 11	64,730 8 1	46,127 17 2	116,938 19 9
Total	—	11,997 0 0	20 0 6	18,051 9 3	99,086 14 0	90,809 13 3	219,964 17 0

16. It is interesting to note the manner in which the circulation of British sterling is increasing, and in this connection the subjoined table, shewing the import of five-franc pieces and British silver into the Colony for the past six years, is worthy of notice:—

Period.	Imports.		
	British silver.	French dollars.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1901... ..	10,329 0 0	39,977 0 0	50,306 0 0
1902... ..	21,269 0 0	80,519 0 0	101,788 0 0
1903... ..	26,035 0 0	91,278 0 0	117,313 0 0
1904... ..	31,252 0 0	65,638 0 0	96,890 0 0
1905... ..	11,810 0 0	108,667 0 0	120,477 0 0
1906... ..	53,000 0 0	111,465 0 0	164,465 0 0

17. The five-franc piece is accepted at the Treasury at 3s. 10½d.

18. The rate of exchange for bills on London was 1 per cent. for the year, and it is estimated that the circulation of all kinds of coin during 1906 amounted to £226,000.

(F.) COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF ANY MUNICIPALITY OR PUBLIC BOARD.

Board of Health.

19. The following returns give the revenue and expenditure of the Board of Health for the past five years:—

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure of the Board of Health from 1902 to 1906.

Heads of Revenue.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance	—	336 2 9	51 9 3	19 11 0	—
" Local Rates	594 12 0	543 9 0	581 0 6	611 8 0	615 2 11
" Slaughter-house Fees ..	93 18 0	95 17 9	102 1 0	104 17 3	108 12 2
" Sale of Stores	1 1 9	—	—	0 11 0	—
" Excess of Expenditure ..	299 3 11	—	495 11 0	1,015 1 5	860 3 1
" Grant-in-Aid	1,000 0 0	400 0 0	500 0 0	400 0 0	500 0 0
" Departmental Fines..	—	—	0 10 2	0 10 0	0 6 7
Total	1,943 15 8	1,375 9 6	1,730 11 11	2,151 18 8	2,184 4 9

Heads of Expenditure.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Excess of Payment ..	346 6 9	—	495 11 0	939 19 3	1,035 5 3
" Salaries	87 4 3	99 4 5	102 0 0	102 0 0	101 16 3
" Horses and Carts	113 6 0	84 10 10	147 10 3	94 6 3	85 18 3
" Street Lights	156 15 6	156 0 2	166 13 2	179 19 3	160 11 0
" Cleaning Drains	646 16 1	628 2 10	457 6 9	401 4 9	413 9 6
" Cleaning Latrines	72 0 0	72 0 0	72 0 0	72 0 0	72 0 0
" Sluice Gate Keepers..	50 3 9	49 19 6	42 12 9	50 3 9	54 9 9
" Commission on Collection of Slaughter-house Fees.	9 7 10	9 11 9	21 19 4	10 9 9	10 17 4
" Miscellaneous	109 2 9	36 4 5	10 14 2	13 15 11	59 11 10
" Extraordinary Expenditure.	—	186 16 4	192 4 0	286 9 9	166 13 10
" Copying Rating List..	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 10 0
" Gratuities	15 0 0	—	—	—	—
" Upkeep, Slaughter-house.	—	—	0 19 6	—	—
Total	1,607 12 11	1,324 0 3	1,711 0 11	2,151 18 8	2,162 3 5

McCarthy Square Board.

20. 1906 was the first year in which this Square was under separate management. The revenue for the period consisted of a grant of £240 from the Government, and a sum of £83 2s. 4d., which was carried forward from 1905, giving a total of £323 2s. 4d. The expenditure for the twelve months, including a sum of \$44 paid for garden seats, amounted to £156 5s. 6d. A balance of £166 16s. 10d. was, therefore, brought forward to the 1907 account, no grant from the Government being asked for that year.

(G.) DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES AND BOARDS.

21. Neither the Board of Health nor the McCarthy Square Board has any debt.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS.

22. The total value of the imports for 1906 was £447,656, but of this £167,167 was for specie, which leaves a balance of £280,489 as the value of general imports. In 1905 the general imports amounted to £181,725; there was an increase, therefore, of £98,764 in 1906 in this respect.

23. The return given below shews the increase or decrease in the principal articles of import during the year:—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.			
	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease
Cotton Goods ...	Pkgs. 2,779	Pkgs. 3,895	£ 53,212	£ 89,688	£ 36,476	£ —
Tobacco ...	lb. 317,965	lb. 223,054	6,382	5,650	—	732
Kola nuts...	818,384	864,034	30,248	29,586	—	662
Spirits ...	Galls. 19,405	Galls. 47,316	3,562	6,974	3,412	—
Wine ...	15,340	20,183	1,999	2,115	116	—
Sugar ...	Cwt. 4,009	Cwt. 5,953	3,965	5,229	1,264	—
Salt ...	Tons. 1,337	Tons. 1,053	897	642	—	255
Gunpowder ...	Brls. 235	Brls. 313	442	669	227	—
Rice ...	Cwt. 52,883	Cwt. 121,359	23,239	52,427	29,188	—

24. Of cotton goods a large stock remains on hand. Although the import was so very large in 1906, only one firm had a full supply of spirits for the coming season, and rice was completely used up during the year, the import for 1907 being, at the present date, much larger for the same period than in any previous year.

25. From the figures given below, it will be seen that the imports were larger in 1906 than in any previous year:—

Imports.

Years.				Total Imports exclusive of Specie.	Imports of Specie.	Total Imports.
				£	£	£
1895	...	...	...	83,967	13,432	97,399
1896	...	...	...	91,062	19,262	110,324
1897	...	...	...	139,812	36,515	176,327
1898	...	...	...	187,062	59,030	246,092
1899	...	...	...	171,572	69,335	240,907
1900	...	...	...	194,408	83,251	277,659
1901	...	...	...	185,095	67,552	252,647
1902	...	...	...	188,239	115,376	303,615
1903	...	...	...	214,790	126,273	341,063
1904	...	...	...	197,430	108,719	306,149
1905	...	...	...	181,725	123,456	305,181
1906	...	...	...	280,489	167,168	447,657

(B.) EXPORTS.

26. The total value of the exports in 1906 amounted to £428,676, and in this is included a sum of £129,425 for specie; the general exports, therefore, were £299,250, as against £184,396 in 1905.

27. The following return shews the principal articles of export with their values :—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.			
	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
Groundnuts ...	Tons. 29,499	Tons. 36,050	£ 169,426	£ 278,055	£ 108,629	£ —
Rubber ...	lb. 9,071	lb. 10,454	915	1,084	169	—
Palm kernels ...	Tons. 227	Tons. 256	1,612	2,122	510	—
Wax ...	lb. 35,828	lb. 46,728	1,444	1,787	343	—
Hides ...	No. 11,723	No. 16,802	2,637	5,201	2,564	—

28. The increase is due to a larger crop of groundnuts, and also to the price of this staple being much higher in 1906 than it was in 1905.

29. There was a slight increase in rubber, which has continued in a very marked way during the present year. The export of hides is also steadily increasing, and the trade in live cattle has improved.

30. The following statement of the number of animals exported annually for the past six years may perhaps be of interest:—

	Year.	Number.	Value.
			£
	1901 ...	294	382
	1902 ...	154	434
	*1903 ...	562	1,629
	1904 ...	374	1,002
	1905 ...	505	1,574
	1906 ...	721	2,485

* In 1903, 203 head of cattle were exported by the Government.

31. The exports for the year, both general and specie, were the record, as will be seen from the figures given below, and in this connection I may mention that the value of the trade of the Colony reached the large sum of £876,335, the nearest amount previously reached in any one year being £675,080.

Year.	Total Exports exclusive of Specie.	Exports of Specie.	Total Exports.
	£	£	£
1895 ...	89,047	4,490	93,537
1896 ...	116,438	543	116,981
1897 ...	163,622	2,272	165,894
1898 ...	245,110	2,722	247,832
1899 ...	234,497	7,439	241,936
1900 ...	240,705	41,271	281,976
1901 ...	194,455	39,212	233,667
1902 ...	210,350	57,790	248,140
1903 ...	290,740	43,277	334,017
1904 ...	249,289	61,994	311,283
1905 ...	184,396	95,876	280,272
1906 ...	299,252	129,426	428,678

(C.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

32. There are no mines in the Gambia, and though gold dust is occasionally brought to Bathurst, it comes from far away to the eastward.

33.—During 1906 a prospecting expedition, run by a French syndicate, proceeded up the river with a view to ascertaining if gold could be found in payable quantities, but, so far, I have heard nothing of the results achieved.

34. The people still continue to weave long strips of cloth, which they sew together and make into pagns, or native gowns, but I do not think this industry is as much followed as it used to be. Still, seed cotton continues to command the old price of $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3d.$ per pound, which points to there being a considerable demand for it.

35. There are no fisheries, though a certain number of the people of Bathurst go out fishing daily, selling as much as they can of what they catch in the market, and drying the remainder and sending it to the interior, where it is readily bought by the people.

(D.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

36. The principal agricultural product, indeed almost the only one in the Gambia, is the groundnut, and upon it the Colony really lives. The crops have improved in volume during the past six years, the average increase for that period over the previous six years being a little more than 11,000 tons.

37. In 1903, 1905, and 1906 seed was given out to the people, and this has undoubtedly improved the export both in quantity and quality.

38. The following figures give the details of these issues:—

—					Weight.	Value.	Crop.
1903.					Tons.	£	Tons.
By Government	...	...	...	...	104½	1,034	
„ Merchants	...	...	...	...	87½	816	
Total	...	...	...	...	192	1,850	43,436
1905.							
„ Government	...	...	...	...	56½	679	
„ Merchants	...	...	...	...	387½	1,988	
Total	...	...	...	...	444	2,667	36,050
1906.							
„ Government	...	...	...	...	137	1,490	
„ Merchants	...	...	...	...	564	4,516	
Total	...	...	...	...	701	6,006	41,000

39. The export from the 1905 planting was not as large as was expected, but I think this can be accounted for by the fact that that year very few, if any, nuts came in from French territory, the price given in Senegal being higher than that paid in the Gambia.

40. The 1906-1907 crop was spoilt by heavy and unprecedented rain in December, which not only damaged the nuts to the extent of about 6 per cent., but brought down the price fully 50 per cent. Had the rain I mention not fallen, I have no hesitation in saying the export would have been the largest ever known.

41. In addition to groundnuts, the natives grow large quantities of corn or millet for food. Unfortunately, in both 1905

and 1906, the Bassé and Kinto, which are varieties of the Indian Sorghum, were destroyed by disease, and a good deal of the Suna and Sania, a small kind of millet, was so damaged by the rain as to be perfectly useless.

42. A very little maize is grown in the Protectorate. As far as I am able to judge, it seems to do well, and I hope to see the cultivation of it increase very rapidly, as the people seem to like it.

43. Where suitable land can be found, rice is grown to a very considerable extent, but not in nearly sufficient quantities to supply the demand for it. For instance, in 1906, 6,068 tons of it were imported and found a ready sale, and a very large quantity has come into the Colony this year, the greater part of which has already been disposed of.

(D 1.) GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

44. The value of land and of property generally in Bathurst is said to be increasing. There have, however, been very few sales recently, and it is most difficult to speak definitely on the point. In Bathurst, in Russell and Wellington Streets, where the European houses of business are situated, very large sums would be paid for sites for factories, but further back the value falls very rapidly. In the first case £200 per acre or even more may be said to be the value; in the second, from £10 to £15.

(E.) SHIPPING.

45. The total tonnage for the year was 404,515; of this, 261 steamers represented 397,366 tons, and 94 sailing vessels 7,149 tons. From the return given below, it will be seen that there was a slight falling off in the tonnage of sailing vessels, but that the increase in that of steamers was nearly 80,000 tons.

Nationality of Vessels.	1905.			1906.		
	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	204,952	17	204,969	254,842	323	255,165
French	58,023	1,885	59,908	64,998	2,082	67,080
German	25,682	—	25,682	41,148	—	41,148
Russian	4,648	—	4,648	15,130	—	15,130
American	—	3,190	3,190	—	1,976	1,976
Norwegian	5,478	391	5,868	3,936	—	3,936
Italian	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutch	6,260	—	6,260	—	—	—
Portuguese	—	2,280	2,280	—	1,970	1,970
Danish	10,440	—	10,440	17,312	—	17,312
Spanish	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swedish	1,990	—	1,990	—	798	798
Total... ..	317,473	7,763	325,236	397,366	7,149	404,515

III.—LEGISLATION.

46. Fifteen Ordinances were passed during the year, the more important of which were:—The Customs Tariff Ordinance (No. 1), of 1906, under which the duty on kola nuts was increased from twopence to threepence per pound and on unmanufactured tobacco from threepence to fourpence per pound.

47. The Slave Trade (Abolition) Ordinance (No. 5), 1906, which repeals the Slave Trade (Abolition) Ordinance of 1894 and differs from that enactment in that under section 4 it is presumed that all slaves brought into the Protectorate are so brought for the purpose of being treated as slaves unless the contrary is shewn. Under section 5 a report has to be made to the Commissioners when any slaves are brought into the Protectorate. By section 6 all slaves coming in or being brought into the Protectorate are, *ipso facto*, free. In the same way by section 9 all children born of slaves shall, after the commencement of the Ordinance be free from their birth, and by section 11 all slaves become free on the death of their master.

48. Under the Judgments Extension Ordinance (No. 13), 1906, judgments obtained in certain of the courts in Sierra Leone are made effective in the Colony of the Gambia, and Ordinance No. 14, "The Registration of Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1906," requires all persons practising either medicine or dentistry to be registered, and provides that only persons whose qualifications are thus registered shall be entitled to sue for and recover fees in a court of law.

IV.—EDUCATION.

49. The number of schools in the Colony and Protectorate was the same in 1906 as it was in 1905.

50. The total number of children on the rolls of the primary schools in Bathurst was 1,062, or 61 more than in 1905. 401 children were presented for examination in the standards, and 112 in the sub-standards; of these, 268 passed in the former, and 70 in the latter. The school which gained the highest percentage at the annual examination was the Saint Mary's Anglican School; four years ago it took the lowest place, so the improvement is very marked. Owing to various causes it was not possible to examine the McCarthy Island School in 1906.

51. The secondary school, under the management of the Wesleyan Society, was continued during the year. There were 17 boys on the rolls, and the average attendance was 14. This school is not under the Board of Education, but I have, by invitation, inspected it, and I cannot say the results were more

than passable. Still, it is the only attempt at secondary education in the Colony, and for that reason deserves encouragement. The school fees amounted to £29 18s., as against £24 9s. 6d. in 1905, and the voluntary contributions, which were only £23 17s. in 1905, were £50 14s. 6d. in 1906, making a total income of £80 2s. 6d., which shews an excess of £32 5s. 10d. on the previous year.

52. The technical school continues to do good work, and the Colony is now beginning to derive advantage from it. There were 25 boys on the roll in 1906, and the average attendance was 21. The total expenditure on the school was £682 12s. 11d., of which sum the Government contributed £300. Six boys have passed through their indentures at the school, and are now working at their trades in Bathurst. At the end of this year five more boys will complete their time, and leave the school.

53. The Mohammedan school is going on well, and I believe is popular with the people. On three days in the week the boys are given an ordinary English elementary education, and on the other three days they learn Arabic. The number of pupils on the roll was 125, and the average attendance 83. These figures include both standard and sub-standard children. There are in all ten boys from the Protectorate, who are the sons of Head Chiefs, at the school, and they are making good progress. Although not under the Board of Education, this school is visited regularly by the Inspector of Schools, and examined annually by him.

54. The expenditure on the school for 1906 was £136 4s., and of this sum the Government contributed £120 10s.

55. The actual sum expended on education during the year was £739 14s., but the grants for 1906, amounting to £479 18s., were not paid until 1907. The total amount, therefore, expended in respect of the year must be taken as £1,219 12s.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

56. The hospitals remained the same as in 1905. The General Hospital, the main building of which was built in 1854, has, as far as is possible, been brought up to modern requirements, and is much used by the public. The female hospital has accommodation for twelve patients, and is a substantial stone building, and was erected in 1902. The total number of in-patients in 1906 was 570, of which 23 were Europeans. There were in all 31 deaths, which, looking to the fact that in many cases the people will not go into hospital until they have tried their native remedies and the disease is far advanced, may be regarded as a small number. Only one

European died in hospital, Sister Dominic, from the Roman Catholic Convent, who succumbed to blackwater fever. Four European Government officials were in-patients, three of whom recovered, the fourth being invalided to England.

57. Of the 547 natives admitted, 91 were Government officials, 49 of whom suffered from fever, and 14 were Syrian traders. 168 are stated to have been Akus, who are the descendants of freed Yoruba slaves from Sierra Leone and still speak the former language. There were 157 Jolloffs, but only 49 Mandingoes. The remainder belonged to 16 other different tribes.

58. The 31 deaths in the Hospital were due to the following diseases:—

Tetanus	...	...	...	...	...	2
Starvation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sleeping sickness	...	...	...	...	...	3
Senile decay	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abscess of colon	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chronic asthma	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	2
Concussion of brain	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Debility	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blackwater fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Exhaustion	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intermittent fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Morbus cordis	...	...	...	...	...	4
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	1
						31

59. Of the Europeans admitted to hospital, seven were Spaniards, five sailors from ships, and eleven British subjects residing in Bathurst.

60. With regard to out-patients, calculated on the system followed last year and in previous years, the number treated was 11,293, as against 10,140 in 1905. The new cases were 4,922, as against 4,235 in 1905.

61. Vaccination was energetically carried out both in the Colony and the Protectorate, the number being, in the first instance, 1,214, and 812 in the second.

62. No case of small-pox was known of in Bathurst during the period under report, but in the Protectorate it broke out in several places and carried off a large number of persons, especially children.

63. The receipts by the Medical Department for the maintenance of sick and sale of medicines amounted to £105 2s. 11*d.* The expenditure was as follows:

Salaries and allowances	£2,543	3	0
Maintenance of sick and other charges	618	11	7
	£3,163	14	7

(B.) SAVINGS BANK.

64. The only savings bank in the Colony is under the management of the Treasurer. At the close of the year there were 320 accounts remaining and the amount due to depositors was £4,711 18s. 7*d.* During 1906, £2,997 5s. 4*d.* was deposited and £3,216 14s. 5*d.* was withdrawn. The interest for the year at 2½ per cent. amounted to £116 16s. 11*d.*

65. There were thirty-six Friendly Societies registered in 1906. They had a sum of £724 3s. 11*d.* standing to their credit. Thirty-four of these societies render assistance to their members in time of sickness, &c. The remaining two have for their object amusement only.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

66. At the commencement of 1906 the police force consisted of a superintendent, an assistant superintendent (both Europeans), and 80 non-commissioned officers and men who were natives of Africa. Under this arrangement the cost of the establishment was estimated at £4,384.

67. During 1906 the force was reduced by ten non-commissioned officers and men, which brought the expenditure on it for that year down to £3,927 0s. 1*d.* For 1907 and future years the cost will be still further reduced to £3,835 1s. 2*d.*

68. The men are armed with the Martini-Enfield short carbine, and are instructed in the manual and firing exercises and company drill. They are fairly efficient, turn out well, are very clean and smart, and are well disciplined.

69. The force has an excellent band, composed of 15 non-commissioned officers and men, which is trained by a European bandmaster.

70. The value of property reported to the police as stolen during 1906 was £44 16s. 2*d.*, of which articles worth £30 11s. 6*d.* were recovered.

71. There is a police reward fund, which is derived from forfeitures of pay and fines for misconduct. These are paid into the Treasury into a fund called the Police Reward Fund, which is administered by the superintendent of police, and from it rewards not properly chargeable to the Colonial fund are granted, subject to the approval of the Governor.

72. There is a fire brigade attached to the force consisting of one first-class sergeant at 15*s.* per month, one second-class sergeant at 12*s.* per month, and eight constables at 8*s.* per month. It is equipped with a Merryweather "India Office" pattern, No. 3 manual fire engine for 30 men, and pumps 136 gallons a minute 130 feet high. The number of calls to fires during the year were nine, as against 13 in 1905.

(B.) PRISONS.

73. There is only one prison in the Gambia, and that is at Bathurst, and it has accommodation for 30 male and five female prisoners. The building itself, though old, is quite sufficient for the present requirements of the Colony.

74. The daily average number of prisoners during the year was 12·53, as against 19·39 in 1905. Thirteen prisoners were undergoing sentence on the 1st January, 1906, and 85 were admitted during the year. Eighty men were discharged at the expiration of their sentences. One man earned the remission for exemplary conduct granted by the rules, two were found to be lunatics and sent to Sierra Leone, and one man escaped from custody and was not recaptured; one prisoner died from heart failure.

75. The expenditure on the prison was £693 8*s.* 5*d.*, and the value of the work performed by the prisoners is estimated at £111 18*s.* 3*d.*

76. The sanitary condition of the institution was excellent, and the health of the prisoners very good.

77. It was not found necessary to inflict corporal punishment on any prisoner during the year, and generally the behaviour of the prisoners was excellent.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

78. During 1906, 126 cases came before the police court, which were dealt with as follows:—

Discharged for want of prosecution or want	
of evidence	57
Dismissed on merits	14
Convicted	90
Committed for trial by Supreme Court	15

176

79. Of the 15 cases for trial by the Supreme Court one fell through for want of prosecution, three prisoners were acquitted, and eleven convicted. Two cases of murder were brought in as manslaughter by the jury, and there was also another case of manslaughter.

80. The cases dealt with by the Native Courts in the Protectorate numbered 337, as against 193 in 1905. In 321 instances fines were inflicted, seven persons were sentenced to imprisonment, three cases were dismissed on the merits, two for want of evidence, and two were sent for trial by the Supreme Court.

81. The cases were distributed as follows:—

North Bank Province	58
South Bank Province	31
Upper River Province	193
McCarthy Island Province	28
Combo and Fogni Province	27
	337

82. There has been a great improvement in the manner in which the Native Courts deal with cases, and I believe them to be patient, conscientious, and impartial in the discharge of their duties.

83. On the 2nd January of the year under report a Moham-medan Court was opened for the trial of causes or matters between, or exclusively affecting, Mohammedan natives relating to civil status, marriage, succession, donations, testaments, and guardianship, and a Cadi or Magistrate was appointed. Up to the 31st December, 1906, twelve cases had been brought before it and dealt with, and as the nature of these cases may be of some interest, I give the particulars of them:—

No.	Date.	Nam's.	Nature of Case.	How disposed of.
1	2nd January, 1906 ...	Julie Cham v. Demba Gay ...	Custody of child and return of dower.	Court ordered the dower to be paid and mother to keep child.
2	16th January, 1906 ...	Samba Secker v. Anna Gomez	Custody of child claimed to teach him Mohammedan religion.	The Court ordered child to remain with mother.
3	13th February, 1906...	Application by Yuma Turay	Permission sought to marry another.	Permission granted by the Court.
4	10th April, 1906 ...	Allasan Jagne v. ^m Benda ^N Jie	Return of dower ...	\$100 dower ordered to be returned by the Court, the father to maintain the child.
5	18th July, 1906 ...	Mariama Koita v. Binta Ann	Return of dower claimed ...	The Court ordered dower of \$52 to be returned, also 3 cows which were deposited.
6	8th August, 1906 ...	Najiru Tal v. Fatu Fal ...	Return of wife or dower ...	Wife refusing to return being pregnant, Court ordered the dower to be returned (\$189).
7	2nd August, 1906 ...	Momordoo Joof v. Juju Ch. m	Return of wife or dower ...	\$25 dower returned as ordered by the Court.
8	10th August, 1906 ...	Sadaga ^N Dure v. Fatu Balleh	Return of dower claimed ...	\$160 and 8 <i>dz</i> . returned being the dower received.
9	16th August, 1906 ...	Momordo Sallah v. Mam ^N Dow	Return of wife ...	Court ordered husband to pay deferred dower of \$22.
10	20th September, 1906	Application by Yie Awa Cham	Permission sought to marry another.	Permission granted her to marry another, the former husband not having been heard of for 3 years.
11	25th October, 1906 ...	Momordo ^N Jie v. Jaine Sarr (Alimami of Bathurst).	Permission sought to return dower to husband.	Court ordered the Alimami to return \$315 to Jaine Sarr, and Jaine Sarr to give Alimami's daughter \$100, he having got 5 wives.
12	22nd November, 1906	Osman Jobe v. Aminata Sarr	Return of dower claimed by husband.	Court ordered \$176, the dower paid, to be returned.

84. On the whole the Court may be said to work well, and it is undoubtedly a great source of satisfaction to the Moham-medans of the Colony to have disputes amongst themselves relating to civil matters decided according to the Koranic law. So far, there has been no appeal from a decision of the Cadi. As an instance of the impartiality of the Court, I would call attention to the case in which the Alimamy of Bathurst, a very influential person from his position, was the defendant, and sentenced to refund a dowry amounting to £61.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

85. The population of the Colony may be taken to be 8,807. It is difficult to say definitely what the population of the Protectorate is. It has, undoubtedly, increased since the census of 1901, but not to any great extent, and I believe 155,000 may be taken as a fairly reliable estimate. An endeavour is being made to introduce a very simple system, under which a record of births and deaths will be kept by the Headmen and Alimamis of towns, but it has not been in force long enough yet to be able to tell if it will answer.

86. The number of births registered in Bathurst was 271, the same as in 1905, and the birth-rate is, therefore, 30·7 per thousand. 281 deaths were recorded, or 18 less than in 1905, the rate being 31·9 per thousand.

87. The number of marriages registered during the year was 22, and shews an increase of eight on 1905.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

88. In Bathurst the general health of the people was very good, and there was no epidemic disease of any kind.

89. In the Protectorate, especially in Combo, Fogni, and the South Bank Provinces there was a good deal of small-pox, and this has had the effect of causing the people to bring their children forward to be vaccinated far more readily than in previous years. They now recognise the benefit derived from it, and during 1907, had lymph been available, great progress would have been made. As it is, over 3,000 children have been vaccinated by the Commissioners during their last tour of service.

(C.) SANITATION.

90. For a West African town, Bathurst is remarkably well kept from a sanitary point of view. Bordered as it is on two

sides by large swamps, there must, however, be a great deal of fever endemic in the place, and this it is impossible to prevent, though considerable improvement has been effected by the anti-mosquito sanitation measures which are vigorously prosecuted.

91. In the Protectorate the towns are, as a rule, much better laid out than they used to be, the streets being far wider and the open spaces more looked after than in former years. Prizes of £10, £7 10s., and £5 are given in each Province for the three cleanest towns, and these were well contested and have produced a decided improvement.

92. The water supply, even in Bathurst, is a great difficulty. As far as the Europeans are concerned, drinking water is obtained from tanks, and is fairly good, but the natives use well water, which, in view of the surroundings, cannot but be bad.

93. In the Protectorate, except in the towns situated on the banks of the river, wells only are used. Some of them are very deep, from 100 to 140 feet, and these give excellent water, but the majority are shallow, and from them the water is generally muddy and foul-smelling in the dry season.

(D.) CLIMATE.

94. From the middle of December to the end of February the weather is very pleasant, and for the greater part of the dry season, that is from November to June, the climate is undoubtedly superior to that in the other West African Colonies. The rainy season, however, is, to my mind, much more trying than it is in Lagos. There, after a tornado or a fall of rain, the air is cool for some time, but in the Gambia this is not the case. From November to the middle of May the air is remarkably dry, but at other times it is most humid, and this has a very depressing effect.

95. In Bathurst I have rarely known the temperature fall below 65°, but in the Protectorate, in December, January, and February, it is, on most mornings, very little over 50° at 6 a.m. The hottest time of the day is from 1 to 3 p.m., and I have known the thermometer, under a thick thatch roof, shew 108° between these hours, but this is exceptional; though in April in the South Bank, McCarthy Island, and Upper River Provinces 100° to 104° is very common.

96. The rainfall in 1906 was 64·33 inches, as against 66·07 inches in 1905. In December 2·72 inches fell during the first ten days of the month, 1·29 inches being the greatest amount in any one day. This was quite unexpected, and most exceptional; in fact, if the records at the hospital are to be relied on, it is the first instance of rain in December during the past 26 years.

97. Below will be found the meteorological return for 1906:—

Months.	Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.		Remarks.
	Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average Force.	
January ..	160	—	95	60	35	76·8	—	—	E.	—	
February ..	165	—	100	61	39	79·0	·01	—	N.	—	
March ..	165	—	100	63	35	75·3	—	—	Do.	—	
April ..	163	—	94	60	34	70·6	—	—	Do.	—	
May ..	166	—	104	64	40	80·0	—	—	Do.	—	
June ..	160	—	100	62	38	78·9	4·07	—	Variable.	—	
July ..	160	—	96	64	32	82·5	16·29	—	Do.	—	
August ..	160	—	94	70	24	82·6	28·15	—	Do.	—	
September ..	162	—	97	72	25	83·8	6·34	—	Do.	—	
October ..	162	—	96	70	26	84·3	6·75	—	Do.	—	
November ..	161	—	99	69	30	84·6	—	—	E.	—	
December ..	158	—	96	62	34	78·4	2·72	—	E.	—	
Total ..	1,942	—	1,171	779	392	957·1	64·33	—	—	—	
Monthly average }	161·8	—	97·5	64·9	32·6	79·7	9·19	—	—	—	

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

98. Mails for Dakar, the Canary Islands, Madeira, and England, and for Sierra Leone and the Leeward Coast as far as Opobo are carried by the steamers of the African Steamship Company and the British and African Steam Navigation Company, which call at Bathurst, outward and homeward, once in every fourteen days.

99. During the last two years a much better class of vessel has been introduced by Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Co., the managers of the two companies named, and on the outward voyage very good time is kept. These new steamers are about 5,000 tons measurement, and have good accommodation for a limited number of passengers. They are thirteen-knot boats, and are a great improvement on the type of vessel which formerly served Bathurst.

100. The total postal revenue for 1906 was £1,317, as against £2,731 in 1905, and of this amount £1,228 5s. 9d. was obtained from the sale of stamps.

101. The expenditure for the same period was £712 15s. 10d., that for 1905 being £808.

102. The postal work shews an increase, 98,379 letters, post-cards, newspapers, &c., having passed through the Post Office, as against 91,768 in 1905. The parcels also shew an increase, as they were 1,994 in 1906 as against 1,554 in 1905.

103. Money orders to the value of £2,027 were issued in the Colony during the year, £564 being the amount of those paid.

104. The value of the postal orders issued was £868, whilst those paid amounted to £204.

TELEGRAPHS.

105. Bathurst is connected with Europe by cable viâ Saint Vincent, Cape de Verde, and also with Sierra Leone. The cables are the property of the African Direct Telegraph Company, which, until November of the year under report, received a subsidy of £500 per annum from the Government, when the period of twenty years, for which it was granted, terminated.

TELEPHONES.

106. All the principal departments of the Government are connected by telephone, but the system has not extended to the outside public in any way.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

107. As a result of the circumstances which gave rise to the punitive expedition in 1901, it was decided that a company of the West African Frontier Force should be stationed in Bathurst. This company, which was raised at the end of 1901, numbers 126 native non-commissioned officers and men, two-thirds of whom are recruited from Sierra Leone and one-third from the natives of the Gambia Protectorate and places adjacent to it. It is officered by one captain, two lieutenants, and two European sergeants, seconded from His Majesty's Regular Forces.

108. When first enrolled the company was quartered in barracks in Bathurst, but this was not thought to be desirable, and during 1906 it was removed to lines built on the outskirts of the town.

109. The men were at first armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine, but this has been replaced by the Lee-Enfield magazine rifle.

110. The cost of the company for 1906 was £5,543 7s. 7d.

X.—GENERAL REMARKS.

111. 1906 was a very uneventful though prosperous year for the Gambia. The Protectorate was quiet, and the people contented and happy, in spite of a certain amount of suffering amongst them caused by the failure of the corn crops, upon which they depend to a great extent for food. The Government, however, issued a large quantity of rice on repayment,

which prevented any really acute distress and was much appreciated. The high price paid to the producer for his groundnuts had a very beneficial effect on trade, as is proved by the increased value of the imports and exports and by the large revenue collected.

112. During the year the extension of, and repairs to, the Government jetty were almost completed. Unfortunately it was rammed by Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Co.'s steamship "Sapele" in March last, and two bays were destroyed, but what remains of it is the most substantial, useful structure yet constructed in the West African Colonies. The dredger, obtained in the main for deepening the Kai Hai Channel, was launched, and did excellent work in connection with the jetty, where it was used for removing the sand, mud, &c., which kept continually accumulating in front of it, whilst the repairs were going on. The repairs to the Senior Medical Officer's quarters were finished, making what was a very tumbledown building a most comfortable and commodious house, and the lines for the West African Frontier Force were also completed and occupied by the company on its return from Cape Saint Mary at the end of June.

113. The trade of the Gambia must be of an uncertain character so long as the groundnut remains the only staple. It is most difficult to persuade the native to take up any other products, because none are known suitable to the climate of the Gambia, with its long dry season, which will pay him so well for his labour. An experiment is being made this year with maize (*Milium Nigricans*), which has been so successful further down the coast, and also with the Egyptian Dhari (*Sorghum Vulgare*), and perhaps, if either of these give good crops, the people will cultivate them next year on a large scale if seed is issued to them, but it is almost impossible to persuade them to take up anything new.

114. At the factories in the Upper River a certain amount of trade in imported goods is done with places to the east of British territory, such as Tenda, Cognagui, Ferlo, and Fouta D'Jallon, and until a little over a year ago there was considerable caravan traffic between Fattatenda and the countries round Kayes. This, however, is now decreasing, and will not, I fear, recover, as every day the facilities for transport in Senegal are improving.

115. Though the climate of the Gambia is for some parts of the year better than in the other West African Colonies, it is for quite five months very trying for Europeans, and white labour would be impossible. Some 100 Europeans are employed as clerks both in Bathurst and up the river for about seven months, and, as a rule, their health is fair, but quite three-fourths of them go home for the rainy season, and all of those that remain out are withdrawn to Bathurst by the second week in June.

116. Perhaps the greatest peculiarity of this Colony is the way in which everything is at a standstill during the rainy season. Having been in Lagos for some years, where no difference as regards work is made between wet and dry seasons, I thought the course of action followed there might be pursued here with advantage, but experience shewed me my mistake, and I am now convinced that public works, such as the erection of buildings, &c., should only be undertaken from November to June, inclusive. Roads constructed during the rains would, no doubt, turn out well, but the cost of labour, if it could be obtained, would be ruinous, as the native takes shelter at the first sign of rain and remains under cover until it is over. Labour would also be very difficult to obtain, as the greater part of the men employed in Bathurst on unskilled work cultivate farms during the planting season and grow groundnuts and corn.

117. The rates of wages both for skilled and unskilled labour are much higher than in other places on the coast, and the cost of living is also more. The supply of skilled labour is very limited, and it is certainly inferior to that to be obtained in Lagos.

118. The social condition of the people of both Colony and Protectorate may be considered good. The inhabitants of the latter are of good class and, taken as a whole, are more advanced in their views and wide-minded than is the case further down the coast. Quite four-fifths of them are strict Mohammedans, and total abstainers. They are decidedly industrious for negroes, and, taken as a whole, are excellent farmers.

119. The general condition of the Gambia in 1906 was very satisfactory. The people were contented, and the commercial prosperity of the country judging by the imports, exports, and revenue of the Colony, was at a higher level than it has ever before been.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE C. DENTON,

Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
505	St. Lucia	1905
506	Mauritius	"
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	"
508	Somaliland... ..	1905-1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent... ..	1905-1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	"
513	Basutoland... ..	1905-1906
514	British Guiana	"
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905-1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate... ..	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast... ..	"
535	Malta	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 576.

GAMBIA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 536.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
October, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
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OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
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1908.

[Cd. 3729-40.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 576.

G A M B I A.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 536.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bathurst, Gambia,
22nd August, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to attach my report on the Blue Book for 1907, which is being forwarded to Your Lordship by this mail.

I have, &c.,

H. M. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The total revenue for the year amounted to £65,892, being an increase on the estimated revenue, £58,730, of £7,162, and an increase of £462 as compared with that of 1906, which exceeded the revenue of any previous year between 1895 and 1905 by £9,866.

2. The following figures show the amounts collected under the various heads of revenue for the years 1906 and 1907, with the several increases and decreases:—

Heads of Revenue.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	51,013	52,048	1,035	—
Port Dues	931	894	—	37
Licences, Excise, &c.	1,838	1,712	—	126
Fees of Court, &c.	1,056	1,041	—	15
Post Office... ..	1,317	745	—	572
Rents, Government Property	314	389	75	—
Government Vessels	257	42	—	215
Interest	1,533	1,258	—	275
Protectorate	6,180	7,208	1,028	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	806	457	—	349
Land Sales... ..	186	98	—	88
Total	65,431	65,892	2,138	1,677

3. The increases were due to the importation of larger quantities of tobacco, kola nuts, and rice, and also to the ground nut crop, on which an export duty is charged, being larger than in 1906.

4. The decreases were due:—

Under “Licences” to licences being taken out in 1908 instead of at the end of 1907;

Under “Post Office” to a small sale of stamps. There were two surcharges in 1906.

Under “Government Vessels” to the Colonial steamer having been laid up for repairs during the greater part of the year;

Under “Interest” to sale of investments; and

Under “Miscellaneous” to fewer sales of old stores and presents.

5. The amount of revenue received under Customs was:—Import duty, £38,429; export duty, £13,619; making a total of £52,048.

6. The following return shows the amount collected under the several Customs headings for the years 1906 and 1907, with their respective increases and decreases:—

Heads of Receipts.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
<i>Imports.</i>	£	£	£	£
<i>Ad Valorem</i>	6,756	6,567	—	189
Wine	1,076	1,006	—	70
Spirits	9,482	5,046	—	4,436
Malt Liquor	190	149	—	41
Tobacco	3,946	5,094	1,148	—
Oils and Turps	930	691	—	239
Sugar	2,845	2,408	—	437
Kola Nuts	9,812	12,695	2,883	—
Rice	3,041	3,560	519	—
Guns and Pistols	286	214	—	72
Powder	130	98	—	32
Salt... ..	263	655	392	—
Kerosene	230	240	10	—
Coffee, Raw	9	6	—	3
Total	38,996	38,429	4,952	5,519
<i>Exports.</i>				
Ground nuts	12,017	13,619	1,602	—
Total	51,013	52,048	6,554	5,519

7. The expenditure for the year amounted to £57,729, an increase of £273 over the estimated expenditure of £57,456; the actual revenue, however, exceeded the actual expenditure by £8,164. The expenditure exceeded that of the previous year by only £826.

8. The following return shows the heads of expenditure for 1906 and 1907, together with the various increases and decreases:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Pensions	917	1,219	302	—
The Governor	3,447	3,356	—	91
The Colonial Secretary	1,156	1,198	42	—
The Protectorate	5,885	7,228	1,343	—
Printing Department	338	358	20	—
Treasury	1,043	1,176	133	—
Customs Department	2,159	2,209	50	—
Post Office	713	770	57	—
Audit Department	479	605	126	—
Judicial Department	1,342	1,371	29	—
Attorney-General	456	652	196	—
Carried forward	17,935	20,142	2,298	91

Heads of Expenditure for 1906 and 1907—continued.

Heads of Expenditure.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward	17,935	20,142	2,298	91
Education	740	1,184	444	—
Frontier Force... ..	5,543	6,107	564	—
Police	3,927	3,647	—	280
Prisons	693	774	81	—
Medical Department	3,140	3,247	107	—
Hospitals and Dispensaries	1,104	1,208	104	—
Government Vessels	2,803	2,417	—	386
Charitable Allowances	108	107	—	—
Transport	394	545	151	— 1
Miscellaneous Services	3,618	3,487	—	131
Drawback and Refunds	153	119	—	34
Agriculture	337	499	162	—
Colonial Engineer's Department	1,717	1,922	205	—
Public Works Recurrent	3,759	7,252	3,493	—
Public Works Extraordinary... ..	7,739	4,991	—	2,748
Special Services	3,191	—	—	3,191
Volunteer Corps	—	79	79	—
Totals	56,901	57,727	7,688	6,862

9. The principal increases are accounted for as follows:—

Pensions.—To the pension due to Mr. C. H. H. Moseley, late Treasurer, for 1906, being paid in 1907, and to additional pensions having to be provided.

Protectorate.—Due to a sum of £983 on account of purchase of ground nut seed issued to the planters during the year, to the clearing of various waterways, additional stipends, and prizes for cleaning native towns.

Education.—Due to the grants earned by the schools for 1906 being paid in 1907.

West African Frontier Force.—To the re-arming of the force and to the erection of an additional range.

Colonial Engineer's Department.—Due to increase in salaries of clerks of works.

Public Works Recurrent.—Due to special repairs to old buildings being transferred to this vote from the vote for Public Works Extraordinary.

10. The principal decreases were under:—

Police.—Owing to supernumeraries having been dispensed with, and to less clothing being required.

Government Vessels.—Owing to the Government yacht "Mansah Kilah" undergoing repairs there was a saving under stores and coal.

Public Works Extraordinary.—Due to various large items being transferred to the vote "Public Works Recurrent."

11. The following return shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1903	55,564	67,504
1904	54,179	52,300
1905	51,868	72,297
1906	65,340	56,988
1907	65,892	57,729

12. There was no change in taxation during the year.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

13. The amount standing to the credit of the Colony on the 31st December, 1907, was £43,500, as compared with £34,583 at the close of 1906, an increase of £9,017.

The surplus funds are invested in various Government securities.

14. The Colony has no public debt.

CURRENCY.

15. The currency of the Colony is British sterling and the French five-franc piece, the latter being accepted by the Government at 3s. 10½d. English and French gold are also legal tender, but are very little used.

RATE OF EXCHANGE.

16. The average rate of exchange for bills drawn on London during the year was one per cent.

COINS IN CIRCULATION.

17. The amount of coin in circulation in the Colony and Protectorate is estimated at £221,250, made up as follows:—

	£
Bank of England Notes	200
British Gold	1,000
British Silver	80,000
French Gold	50
French five-franc pieces	140,000
	£221,250

18. During the year specie was imported to the value of £149,368, as compared with £167,168 in 1906, and £117,828 was exported, as against £129,426 in 1906. The decrease in the importation of specie was no doubt due to the fact that a smaller out-put of ground nuts for the season 1907-8 was anticipated, and consequently less silver would be required.

MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL BOARDS, &c.

19. There are only two Boards of this nature in the Colony, namely, the Board of Health and the McCarthy Square Board.

20. The Board of Health consists of the Senior Medical Officer and the Colonial Engineer, who are *ex-officio* members, the Superintendent of Police, a Medical Officer, and two leading members of the native community. This year representatives of the Mandingoes and Jolloffs resident in the town were appointed to the Board with satisfactory results.

21. The Board meets fortnightly, and is responsible for the sanitary condition of Bathurst. Its revenue is derived from: (1) rates levied on the annual value of house property in the town at the rate of three per cent.; (2) from fees collected at the slaughter-house; and (3) from a grant-in-aid from the Government. The following revenue was received during the year:—

	£
Balance brought forward from last year	22
Local Rates	575
Slaughter-house Fees	112
Government Grant-in-aid	325
Sale of Stores	2
	£1,036

The expenditure for the same period was:—

	£
Salaries	114
Cleaning Drains and Streets, &c.	520
Lighting of Streets	167
Carts and Horses	127
Special expenditure connected with Mosquito	
Sanitation	204
Miscellaneous	24
	£1,156

an excess of payments over receipts of £120.

22. Ordinarily twenty labourers are employed sweeping and scavenging the town, but for the four months of the rainy season an additional gang is taken on for special work in regard to mosquito sanitation.

23. During the year the carts of the Board removed 1,513 cartloads of refuse, &c., to the dumping ground, and 21 cartloads of old tins and bottles, &c., were similarly dealt with. The Inspector paid 1,952 house to house visits, served 465 notices to abate nuisances, and in 15 cases it was found necessary to take out summonses to enforce sanitation. For a West African town Bathurst may be said to be very presentable, the streets being wide and clean.

McCarthy Square Board.

24. This square, which is situated in the centre of the town, was enclosed in 1905 and placed under separate management in 1906. The square is open to the public as a recreation ground, and games and sports of all kinds are held there. The Board is at present dependent on the Government for a grant for the upkeep of the square, as it has no revenue of its own. The expenditure for the year was £100.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS.

25. The total value of imports for the year amounted to £445,359, as against £447,657 in 1906, a decrease of £2,298. The imports of specie amounted to £149,368, which, when deducted from the total imports, leaves the value of the general imports at £295,981, as compared with £280,489 in 1906, an increase of £15,492 in favour of 1907.

26. The value of cotton goods imported during the year was £82,023, or £7,665 less than in 1906, of which £72,939 came from Great Britain, £7,746 from France, and £1,026 from Germany. The following return shows the principal articles of import for the years 1906 and 1907:—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.			
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Pkgs.	Pkgs.	£	£	£	£
Cotton Goods ...	3,895	3,449	89,688	82,023	—	7,665
	lbs.	lbs.				
Tobacco ...	223,054	294,664	5,650	8,249	2,599	—
Kola nuts...	864,034	1,015,474	29,586	39,942	10,356	—
	Galls.	Galls.				
Spirits ...	47,316	25,175	6,974	4,872	—	2,102
Wine ...	20,183	18,514	2,115	2,156	41	—
	Cwts.	Cwts.				
Sugar ...	5,953	5,181	5,229	4,655	—	574
	Tons.	Tons.				
Salt ...	1,053	2,622	642	2,211	1,569	—
	Brls.	Brls.				
Gunpowder ...	313	236	669	502	—	167
	Cwts.	Cwts.				
Rice ...	121,359	141,882	52,427	71,889	19,462	—

27. The increase in tobacco was due to the stock on hand at the close of the previous year being very small; in kola nuts to the expectation of a good trading season—the duty collected

on these nuts amounted to £12,695, the largest sum ever realised on this item of revenue. Salt, the product of the Cape Verde Islands, also shows an increase, and the increase in rice, which was 1,026 tons more than the quantity imported in the previous year, was due to the failure of all the corn crops.

28. The decrease in cotton goods was due to the large stocks on hand, and the decrease in spirits can be attributed to the same cause.

29. Of the total value of imports, exclusive of specie:—

53	per cent.	came from	Great Britain,
13	"	"	British Colonies,
20	"	"	France,
1	"	"	French Colonies,
10	"	"	Germany,
1	"	"	Portuguese Colonies, and
2	"	"	Other Countries.

30. The value of imports may be classified as under:—

	£
Specific Commercial Imports	140,799
<i>Ad Valorem</i> " " " "	144,210
Free " " " "	153,301
	£438,310
Free Government Imports	7,050
	£445,360

(B.) EXPORTS.

31. The total value of exports for the year, inclusive of £117,828 on account of specie, amounted to £408,476, as compared with £428,678 in the previous year.

32. The following return shows the principal articles of export with their values:—

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.			
	1906.	1907.	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Tons.	Tons.	£	£	£	£
Ground nuts ...	36,050	40,858	278,055	256,685	—	21,370
	lbs.	lbs.				
Rubber	10,454	61,405	1,084	5,686	4,602	—
	Tons.	Tons.				
Palm kernels ...	256	342	2,122	3,657	1,535	—
	lbs.	lbs.				
Wax	46,728	53,408	1,787	2,325	538	—
	No.	No.				
Hides	16,082	30,647	5,201	9,615	4,414	—

33. The principal increases were under rubber, palm kernels, and hides. The export of hides, which in 1902 were valued at £520, has been increasing year by year. It will be seen that this year the value of hides exported amounted to £9,615.

34. The decrease in the value of ground nuts, £21,370, was due to the rains which fell in the last month of 1906 and damaged many of the nuts which had been pulled, with the result that the price was considerably reduced.

35. Of the total exports, exclusive of specie, for the year,—

8½	per cent. went to	Great Britain,
1	"	British Colonies,
82	"	France,
2½	"	French Colonies,
2½	"	Germany,
2½	"	Holland, and
1	"	Other Countries.

36. The destination of the ground nuts was as follows:—

		Tons.	Value. £
Great Britain	...	480	3,998
France	...	38,091	237,236
Germany	...	1,159	8,116
Holland	...	1,120	7,282
Other Countries	...	8	50
Total	...	40,858	256,685

(C.) MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

37. There are no mines in the Colony.

The prospecting expedition run by a French syndicate and referred to in last year's report returned again this year to make further investigations as to whether gold could be found in payable quantities in the upper part of the river. The members of the expedition have returned home by way of the Senegal, but nothing has been learnt as to the result of their researches.

38. The people still continue to make long narrow strips of cloth, which they sew together and make into gowns. A good native-made gown will command a much higher price than anything which can be imported from Manchester. A certain amount of English yarn is used by the natives.

39. A small amount of pottery is made in the Colony.

40. Of fish there is an abundance, and both fishermen from Bathurst and from the French territory find a good trade. Fresh fish can be procured twice daily, and what is not sold is sun-dried and eventually taken up the river and readily exchanged for corn, rice, or millet. The price is very reasonable.

(D.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, &C.

41. The ground nut is the main product of the Colony and Protectorate. During the year the quantity exported amounted to 40,858 tons, of the value of £256,685. This was an increase tonnage of 4,808 tons over 1906, but owing to heavy and unprecedented rains in December, 1906, a portion of the crop was spoilt; otherwise the output would have been considerably larger. Another cause which helped to reduce the export of this article was that the merchants offered a very low price for the nuts, with the result that many nuts which would ordinarily have come from French territory to English trading stations found their way to Senegal, where the merchants were giving higher prices.

42. In addition to ground nuts large quantities of corn and rice are grown, but the crops are not nearly enough to meet the demand. As regards rice, which is the chief food of the natives, 7,094 tons, of the value of £71,889, were imported during the year.

43. Supplies of pumpkins, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, ochros, and vegetable gourd are sometimes to be obtained, but they are not plentiful. English vegetables such as cabbages, carrots, turnips, lettuces, and French beans can be grown with some success from November to April.

44. Fruit is not plentiful, but excellent oranges, bananas, pawpaws, and mangoes can generally be obtained.

Timber.

45. Mahogany and rosewood trees are to be found in nearly all the districts in the Protectorate, but they are too scattered to allow of a profitable export trade. Both woods are used in the building of cutters, boats, and houses. Rhun palms, of which there are a great number in the Colony, are used as piles for bridges and wharves at the stations along the river—the palm being particularly suitable for this class of work.

General Value of Land.

46. The value of land in Bathurst is gradually increasing, and more buildings are being erected every year. The value is about £200 per acre in a good part of the town, and about £8 for plots of about 80 feet square in the native portion of the town. Beyond the island of Bathurst, but near it, the land is worth about £8 an acre.

(E.) SHIPPING.

47. The total tonnage for the year was 453,784 tons, made up as follows:—

				Tons.
Steam vessels	...	...	...	449,367
Sailing vessels	...	...	...	4,417

48. The following return gives in detail the total tonnage and nationality of the shipping for the years 1906 and 1907, which shows an increase of 49,269 tons in favour of 1907:—

Nationality of Vessels.	1906			1907.		
	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	254,842	323	255,165	304,261	242	304,503
French	64,998	2,082	67,080	61,956	1,903	63,859
German	41,148	—	41,148	40,422	—	40,422
Russian	15,130	—	15,130	9,038	—	9,038
American... ..	—	1,976	1,976	—	1,442	1,442
Norwegian	3,936	—	3,936	18,722	—	18,722
Portuguese	—	1,970	1,970	740	830	1,570
Danish	17,312	—	17,312	9,204	—	9,204
Swedish	—	798	798	—	—	—
Greek	—	—	—	5,024	—	5,024
Total... ..	397,366	7,149	404,515	449,367	4,417	453,784

III.—LEGISLATION.

49. Eight Ordinances were passed during the year. The more important were:—

No. 1. "An Ordinance to amend the Protectorate Ordinance, 1902," wherein (1) the area controlled by a Travelling Commissioner in the Protectorate was altered from "Territory" to "Province," confusion having arisen owing to the want of a distinctive word; (2) to give the Governor power to appoint a deputy to a Head Chief if necessary; and (3) to give the Governor-in-Council power to make regulations providing for the protection of the staple crop grown in the Colony.

No. 2. An Ordinance declaring that provisions contained in the "Attorney-General's (Application of Laws) Ordinance, 1902," shall apply to the Legal Assistant to the Governor. This Ordinance was passed in order to enable the Legal Assistant to perform the duties assigned to the Attorney-General, there being at present no Attorney-General in the Colony.

No. 4. "An Ordinance to provide for the organization and establishment of a Volunteer Force."

IV.—EDUCATION.

50. There are seven primary schools in the Colony and Protectorate. Five at Bathurst, one in Kommbo, added this year, and one at McCarthy Island. They are established by and are under the management of the various religious denominations, viz.: Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan, and receive grants-in-aid from the Government, the Anglican having one school, the Roman Catholics two, and the Wesleyans four primary schools in addition to a secondary and a technical school. There is also a Mohammedan school which receives aid from the Government.

51. There were 1,306 children on the registers of the schools of the Colony, and of this number 1,233 were attending the schools in Bathurst; 124 of these children are on the registers of the Mohammedan school, and 25 on the registers of the Wesleyan Technical School. This total makes a record.

52. 424 children were presented in the standards, of which 278 passed, and in the sub-standards 60 passed out of the 108 children presented. The number of passes also makes a record.

53. The income of the several schools in Bathurst was as under:—

School.	School Fees.	Amount contributed by owners.	Government Grant.	Total.
	£	£	£	900/00 £
Anglican	30	98	224	352
Wesleyan	61	234	193	488
Roman Catholic ...	36	338	340	714
Total... ..	127	670	757	1,554

The grants to the Anglican and Roman Catholic include the Government grant of £150 per annum to the superintendent of each school. The Wesleyans have not yet been able to take advantage of this grant.

54. The expenditure of the schools for the year was:—

School.	Buildings.	Repairs.	School Materials.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Anglican	—	—	25	318	8	343
Wesleyan	20	25	10	429	4	488
Roman Catholic ...	—	10	65	631	—	714
Total	20	35	100	1,378	12	1,545

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

55. The Wesleyan Missionary Society is the only body which has a secondary school for boys in the Colony. The number on the register is 17, while the average attendance is 13. The school fees amounted to £23, and the expenditure to £69.

TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

56. This school continues under the management of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and is of an undenominational character. The school has at present 18 boys on its register, of whom 10 are receiving instruction in joinery, &c., two are being taught bricklaying, and five blacksmithery. Those pupils who have not passed the fifth standard receive instruction every day in reading, writing, and arithmetic. The school is under a European instructor, and receives a grant-in-aid from the Government of £300 a year. Some of the boys as soon as they have served their apprenticeship find ready employment in the Public Works Department, and as a rule turn out excellent workmen.

MOHAMMEDAN SCHOOL.

57. This school, which was established in 1903, continues to make good progress. The number of children is 124, one less than last year. The average attendance during the year was 79, as compared with 83 last year. Arabic is taught for three days of the week, and on the other days the pupils receive instruction in English and arithmetic. When the school was first opened the Chiefs in the Protectorate were invited to send their sons to Bathurst to enable them to be properly taught. At first two or three Chiefs sent their boys on condition that they were not to be turned into "trouser-men"; gradually other Chiefs sent their sons, and at present there are ten boys in Bathurst; curious to relate, however, nearly all the Chiefs asked in the early part of this year that their sons might be sent to the Anglican school to learn English. They are sharp youngsters, and many of them are in the higher standards. The boys while in Bathurst are supported by the Government.

58. The expenditure incurred by the Government on account of Education during the year, exclusive of the salary of the Inspector of Schools, amounted to £1,264, made up as follows:—

	£
Contribution to salaries of European Superintendents	300
Contribution to salaries of teachers in the Mohammedan School	137
Grants-in-aid of Schools and Prizes	527
Grant to Wesleyan Industrial School	300
Total	£1,264

59. The total number of children on the school rolls in the Colony was:—

Roman Catholic schools	...	...	481
Wesleyan schools	...	...	498
Anglican school	...	...	178
Mohammedan school	...	...	128
Technical school	...	...	25
Grand total	...	...	<u>1,310</u>

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

60. There are two hospitals in Bathurst. The general hospital consisting of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd class wards for men, with an adjoining bungalow for women, and a contagious disease hospital recently erected two miles out of Bathurst, and off the main road going to Cape St. Mary. This hospital was removed from the town as it was found to be too near to the lines erected for the Gambia Company of the West African Frontier Force. It is a great improvement on the old building, which was made of thatch and bamboo. Many improvements have also been made in the general hospital during the year. The consulting and waiting rooms have been converted into the dispensary, affording more room than formerly, and a portion of the old female ward, which was condemned many years ago, has been renovated and converted into a very good consulting room, waiting room, and dressing room for out-patients. This change has been greatly appreciated by the out-patients, as formerly, owing to want of space, they had to wait outside in the open, which was very trying during the rainy season. A staircase has also been built, which allows of patients being taken with ease in a stretcher from the ground floor to the first floor and operating room. Many improvements have been made in this institution during the past six years and it can compare favourably with similar institutions in the other West African Colonies.

61. The accommodation in the wards is as follows:—

			Beds.
First class ward—men	...	...	4
Second class ward—men	...	...	10
Third class ward—men	...	...	24
Female ward	...	...	12

making the total number of beds to 50.

62. The total number of patients admitted into the hospital during the year was 560 or 10 less than in 1906.

63. The following table shows the number of patients in the hospital during the year:—

—	Remaining in hospital on 31st December, 1906.	Admitted during the year.	Died.	Remaining in hospital on 31st December, 1907.
Europeans	—	27	1	1
Natives	9	382	25	11
Civil police	—	45	1	1
West African Frontier Force.	1	81	2	3
Syrians	—	14	—	—
Total	10	550	29	16

64. Of the 29 deaths in the hospital nine took place within twenty-four hours of admission, and six within forty-eight hours.

65. The deaths in the hospital were mainly due to small-pox, alcoholism, rheumatism, encephalitis, paralysis, tetanus, pericarditis, pneumonia, and nephritis.

66. The number of out-patients treated during the year was 11,893, as compared with 11,293 cases treated in 1906. The old cases numbered 6,699 and the number of new cases was 5,194.

67. Of the European population of 128, of which 39 are officials, there were two deaths, one an official who died from encephalitis, and a factory agent of one of the trading firms who died of malignant malarial fever. A non-official was also invalided.

68. In giving the number of Europeans as 128, it must be remembered that more than half of this number are absent from the Colony during the rainy season, when the conditions are very trying.

69. Among the European officials 14 were on the sick list during the year for an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ days. This compares favourably with the previous year when 27 officials were on the sick list for an average period of over 8 days.

70. Among the native officials 83 were on the sick list for 383 days, as compared with 91 in 1906, who were on the sick list for 475 days, the average number of days for each patient in 1907 being $4\frac{1}{2}$ days, while in 1906 it was a little over 5 days.

71. Vaccination was carried out throughout the year both in Bathurst, where 1,370 cases were successful, only 41 cases being failures, and in the Protectorate where it is performed by the Commissioners as well as by a Medical Officer. They vaccinated 3,361 persons, but owing to their having to move on from place to place within three or four days after the vaccination had been done, it is difficult to say how many of the cases were successful.

72. In Bathurst there were only three cases of small-pox, which had very probably been contracted elsewhere. In the Protectorate there were several outbreaks, but it is pleasing to be able to record that the natives are rapidly realising the efficiency of vaccination. During the year the people of Brufut, a town not far from Bathurst, refused to allow their children to be vaccinated; a few months afterwards small-pox broke out rather badly in the town. When, however, they saw that the people in the neighbouring towns, with which there was frequent communication, who had been vaccinated, did not catch the disease, they quickly changed their views and clamoured to have it done. The lymph, which for several years past has been obtained from the Liverpool Institute of Comparative Pathology, continues to be most satisfactory.

73. There are no asylums in the Colony. Lunatics are generally sent to the asylum at Sierra Leone. It is proposed to establish a home for destitute persons and those suffering from incurable diseases who are at present met with in the streets begging for alms.

74. While under this head it is desirable to record that a hospital and dispensary has been erected during the year at McCarthy Island, an important trade centre situated about 160 miles up the river. It has been long asked for, and is much appreciated by the natives. It is in charge of a qualified dispenser, who is supervised by the Protectorate Medical Officer.

75. The receipts and expenditure under the Medical Department during the year were as follows:—

RECEIPTS.	£
Maintenance of sick and sale of medicines ...	105

EXPENDITURE.	
Salaries and allowances, &c. ...	£3,247
Maintenance of sick and purchase of medicines, &c. ...	1,208

Total ...	£4,445
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(B.) SAVINGS BANK.

76. There is only one savings bank in the Colony, which is under the management of the Treasurer. The amount remaining on deposit at the close of the year was £4,877, as compared with £4,712 at the end of 1906. A large portion of these deposits belongs to societies connected with religious communities. During the year the deposits were £2,183, while the withdrawals amounted to £2,136. The interest allowed on deposits at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum amounted to £118. The number of depositors at the end of the year was 309, as compared with 320 in the previous year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

77. The strength of the force is 72, consisting of a superintendent, assistant superintendent, who are Europeans, and 70 non-commissioned officers and men. The force was reduced in 1906 by 10 men. Sixty-three non-commissioned officers and men are stationed at headquarters and one non-commissioned officer and six men are stationed at various places in the Protectorate.

78. The men are armed with Martini-Enfield carbines and have three seven-pounder R.M.L. guns in their charge. Besides their ordinary duties they are exercised in firing exercise and company drill, and may be regarded as a semi-military force. The force also has charge of a 30-man Merryweather manual fire engine, with which they drill twice weekly. The engine can pump 130 gallons a minute and throw a jet 130 feet high. The number of calls to fires during the year was 10, as against 9 in 1906. The loss by these fires was estimated at £140.

79. The value of property reported to the police during the year as stolen was £121, of which £91 was recovered.

80. The force, whose discipline is very satisfactory, has an excellent band, which has been trained by a European bandmaster.

81. The expenditure on account of the force during the year was £3,647.

(B.) PRISONS.

82. There is one prison in Bathurst, which has accommodation for 30 male and five female prisoners. There is also a small prison at McCarthy Island in which prisoners are detained until they can be sent to headquarters.

83. The building is an old one, but at present answers all the requirements. In the men's portions there are fifteen separate cells and four associated wards, while on the women's side there are two associated wards and one separate cell.

84. The daily average number of prisoners during the year was 19.42, as compared with 12.53 in 1906. Thirteen prisoners were undergoing sentence on the 1st of January, 1907, and 102 were admitted during the year, and at the end of the year there were 21 remaining. There were two deaths in the prison, one from beri-beri and one from nephritis.

85. The prisoners were employed during the year in breaking stones, in cleaning Government compounds, and in white-washing the prison buildings. The value of the work done was estimated at £155, while the expenditure on account of staff and maintenance was £774.

86. There was no corporal punishment inflicted during the year, and the eight offences committed were of a minor nature.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

87. During the year 239 cases were brought before the police court, being 78 cases more than last year. This was due to 64 of the cases being for the offence of selling goods in the market without obtaining in the first instance a stall ticket. They were all petty cases which were met by small fines. The other cases were not of a serious nature, 20 being for "abusive language," 6 for "loitering on the Government wharf," 17 for "committing nuisance," 36 for "being drunk in the public streets"—six less than last year, 20 for "petty larcenies," 34 for "assault," 5 for offences under the "Artisans and Servants Ordinance," and several other small offences. In 169 cases convictions were obtained.

88. Ten cases were tried in the Supreme Court. In five of the cases the charge was "housebreaking and larceny," two were acquitted, and the remaining three found guilty were sentenced to a week's imprisonment and a whipping.

PROTECTORATE.

89. Sixteen cases from the Protectorate were tried in the Supreme Court. One for "unlawfully adjudicating on a case in the Protectorate"; one for "shooting with intent to commit murder"; five were found guilty of "abducting a girl under sixteen years of age"; one for "feloniously departing from the limits within which he was ordered to reside by the Governor"; one was found guilty of "cattle stealing"; there was one case of "shopbreaking and larceny"; one case of "murder," in which the prisoner was found guilty of "manslaughter." In one case of "unlawfully giving credit" and in another where three men were charged with "manslaughter," the prisoners were acquitted.

90. Three hundred and thirty-nine cases were adjudicated upon by the native tribunals, mostly for "neglecting to obey the lawful orders of the Chiefs" and for "offences against the person" for which fines were generally imposed. There were only seven cases of imprisonment; there are no cases however which call for special attention.

The cases were distributed as follows:—

North Bank Province	...	...	...	63
South Bank	"	...	...	26
Upper River	"	...	...	172
McCarthy Island	"	...	...	32
Kommbo & Fogni	"	...	...	46
Total	...	...	...	339

91. On the whole the Chiefs and other members of the native tribunals do their work very well, and every year shows some improvement.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

92. The population of the Colony may be taken at 8,807, and that of the Protectorate may be estimated at 137,516, making a total of 146,323.

93. The number of births registered in Bathurst was 326; this represents a birth-rate of 29·1 per 1,000. The deaths recorded were 296, and represent a death-rate of 31·6 per 1,000.

94. There were 29 marriages during the year, which is an increase of 7 on the marriages for 1906.

95. At the beginning of the year the Chiefs and Headmen in the Protectorate were given red and blue books with pencils to match, and had it carefully explained to them that they were to enter all deaths in the red book and all births in the blue book. This they promised to do. A return was made at the end of the year, and the estimated population of each province with the return of births and deaths taken from these books is given hereunder:—

Province.	Population.	Births.	Deaths.
Upper River	49,685	1,892	1,388
McCarthy Island	19,459	964	615
North Bank	49,325	1,417	956
South Bank	12,004	621	476
Kommo and Fogni	7,043	443	334

96. The natives view with suspicion the counting of the people and their cattle, and did not take to the idea of entering in a book every birth or death, but the object was carefully explained to them, and with the assurance that the imposition of a poll-tax was not intended, all the Headmen have made entries in their books. It is too much to say that the present returns can be regarded as accurate, but it is very probable that in a few years these books will give a good idea of the number of births and deaths every year in each district.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

97. The general health of the Colony and Protectorate during the year was good. There was a certain amount of small-pox in the Protectorate, and three mild cases were treated in Bathurst.

(C.) SANITATION.

98. The town of Bathurst was kept in good sanitary condition during the year. The various wells in the town were

inspected weekly, and the pumps kept in working order. Everything possible has been done to keep these wells and their surroundings clean, but it is a difficult matter to supply the natives with good drinking water. The Europeans, and most of the well-to-do natives, have tanks round their houses which contain sufficient drinking water to last during the eight dry months of the year.

99. In the Protectorate every opportunity is taken of opening up the streets and making the people build their houses in line. There has been a marked improvement in this direction during the past few years. The surroundings of the wells, some of which are very deep, are also kept clean.

(D.) CLIMATE.

100. From the middle of November to April the climate may be said to be not unpleasant; but in the rainy season—July to October—it is very trying, and the mosquitoes add greatly to every one's discomfort.

101. In the dry season the thermometer sometimes registers as low as 56° in the early morning, but rises during the day to as high as 96° and sometimes 100°. These great variations are very trying. In some of the Provinces of the Protectorate after April the thermometer often rises to 100° and 104°. In the rainy season the temperature ranges between 70° and 90°.

102. The rainfall amounted during the year to 34 inches, which was 32 inches less than the rainfall of the previous year. The average rainfall is about 50 inches.

103. Below will be found the meteorological return for the year:—

Month.	Temperature.					Rainfall.	Winds.
	Solar Maximum.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	General direction.
January	161	95	57	38	77·4	—	E.
February	162	100	63	37	79·6	—	N.
March ...	165	103	65	38	80·9	—	N.
April ...	160	93	63	30	77·4	—	N.
May ...	158	94	65	29	77·8	—	N.
June ...	160	96	64	32	81·8	1·11	Variable
July ...	159	95	69	26	82·4	4·71	Do.
August	163	95	69	26	81·1	15·92	Do.
September	161	94	69	25	81·9	10·79	Do.
October	162	97	70	27	82·7	1·13	Do.
November	157	92	67	25	77·6	·34	E.
December ^d	157	92	61	31	75·2	—	E.

Total rainfall 34·00 inches.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

104. There is a fortnightly service of mail steamers belonging to the African Steamship Company and the British and African Steam Navigation Company running between Liverpool and Bathurst. Communication is also held with the Canary Islands and places on the West African Coast by these steamers. Monthly steamers of these lines from London and steamers of the Woermann and other lines from Hamburg call here when inducement offers.

105. In recent years there has been great improvement in the size and speed of the steamers running from Liverpool to Bathurst, but many of them are without a smoking room or ladies' sitting room, so that when unable to stay on deck the saloon has to be sought by every one. The cost of a first class passage from Liverpool to Bathurst used to be £18 10s.; this rate however has recently been increased to £22. The catering on the main line steamers has been much improved, but the unfortunate passengers bound for Bathurst do not share the good fortune which has come to the passengers on those steamers.

106. On the inland waters, besides the Government yacht, there are several steamers belonging to the merchants, which make frequent trips to the upper river. There are also six launches and a fleet of cutters varying in size from 5 to 40 tons. In the ground nut season steamers drawing 10 to 12 feet can easily load their cargoes at McCarthy Island, about 160 miles up the river.

POST OFFICE.

107. The revenue for the Post Office for the year was £745, as against £1,317 in 1906, and of this amount £609 was obtained from the sale of stamps.

108. The expenditure for the same period was £770, of which £247 was expended on the conveyance of mails beyond the Colony. Last year the expenditure was £713.

109. The value of the money orders issued during the year was £1,848, while the value of orders paid during the year amounted to £375.

110. The value of the postal orders issued was £992, and those paid amounted to £184.

TELEGRAPHS.

111. Bathurst is connected with Europe by cable via St. Vincent, Cape Verde, and also with the other West African Colonies via Sierra Leone. The annual subsidy of £500, which the Government paid the African Direct Telegraph Company, lapsed last year. There is no inland telegraph in the Colony.

TELEPHONES.

112. A Government telephone exists in Bathurst, and all the principal departments are connected. During the year the barracks of the West African Frontier Force were connected with the lines of the men, and the system was also extended to Cape St. Mary, about seven miles and a half from Bathurst.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

113. The year was not a very prosperous one for the Colony generally. A good crop of ground nuts was anticipated, and at the opening of the trade in November one shilling and nine pence was paid for a bushel. Unfortunately most unusual and heavy rains fell in December, 1906, and damaged the crops, which had been dug and were lying in the fields before being "beaten." The price at once fell to one shilling a bushel, and in some instances to nine pence. The natives were greatly disheartened, and for some time refused to sell. Eventually the prices went up to 1s. 3d. and 1s. 6d. a bushel, but there was great soreness about it. To prevent the possibility of such a disaster occurring again regulations were passed under the Protectorate Ordinance whereby farmers are required to place unbeaten nuts on a platform of brushwood one foot in thickness above the ground, and then to thatch the stacks with palm leaves or grass. When explained to them the planters at once saw the benefit to be derived from these regulations, and they are complied with all over the Protectorate at the end of 1907. The people also suffered in some of their corn crops being destroyed by blight, and some lying on the ground beginning to sprout after the late rains, and consequently ruined. The outlook for the rainy season for the people was very serious, but the Government came to the rescue and made an issue to them of 8,500 bags of rice, the cost of which was recovered in the early part of 1908 without any difficulty. An experimental issue of three tons of maize from Grand Canary was also made to the farmers. The results were most successful, as it grew more quickly than the native corn, produced a larger ear, and was sweeter; the only complaint came from the women who said it was harder to beat into flour.

114. The work of strengthening and extending the Government wharf, which was commenced in 1905, was completed in February, at a cost of £11,895, but unfortunately it was rammed in March by one of Messrs. Elder Dempster and Company's steamers when attempting to come alongside, and two of the bays at one end of the wharf were carried away. The damage done was considerable, but the rebuilding was completed in June, 1908.

115. The work of dredging the Kai Hai Channel, which is estimated to cost £11,882, exclusive of plant, &c., was com-

menced this year, and about 2,726 cubic yards of mud and sand have been removed. The deepening of this channel, which is about 140 miles up the river, will, it is hoped, allow of steamers drawing 15 to 16 feet to proceed to McCarthy Island, a great trading depôt, about 160 miles up the river.

116. During the year various samples of oranges, rubber, and jute were sent to the Imperial Institute for report. The oranges, on which Bathurst rather prides itself, consisted of eight cases containing 929 oranges. They arrived in England in good condition, and samples of the best oranges were submitted to various importers and dealers in London, who were invited to give their views on them. Without exception the opinion of these gentlemen was very disappointing. The oranges were said to look as if they had been picked when too green and had a stale appearance, and were too spotty to obtain a ready sale. One firm sent to inspect the whole consignment with the result that the representative stated that if such oranges arrived in London during a normal Spanish season it was doubtful whether the proceeds of the sale would cover freight and charges. The final decision was that unless the oranges could be considerably improved there was no market for them in London. As regards the rubber *Ficus vogelii*, only a small sample was sent, but its commercial value was placed at about three shillings per pound or a little more if free from stickiness. Two further samples of this rubber, weighing 84 lbs. and 15 lbs. respectively, have been sent to the Imperial Institute, and the report is awaited with interest. Samples of *Urena lobata* fibre were also sent to the Institute, and were reported to be soft, well cleaned and prepared and of good lustre; the strength was good and the length of staple averaged 3 feet. The commercial value was stated to be £17 per ton, and the fibre would be readily saleable in large quantities.

117. It may interest sportsmen to know that while good sport may be obtained in the Gambia, big game is not plentiful. During the year regulations have been passed under "The Wild Animals, Birds, and Fish Preservation Ordinance, 1901," under which some animals and birds are protected from June to the following March, and such birds as marabouts, egrets, bustard, crown birds, &c., are protected from June to December. A sportsman's licence costs £5.

118. The rates of wages generally are higher than in other West African Colonies, and the cost of living both for Europeans and natives is also higher.

119. The Colony is quite unsuited for European labour. More than half of the European community consisting of officials, merchants, and their assistants, leave the Colony during the rainy season—July to November.

120. The death of Mr. Battey, Chief Engineer and Master of Government Vessels, has to be recorded with much regret. He

had been a long time in the service, had done good work, and was very popular with his brother officers. Mr. M. MacAffer was appointed in his place.

121. Dr. R. M. Forde, who had been Senior Medical Officer in the Colony since 1895, was promoted to the office of Principal Medical Officer of Sierra Leone, and Dr. T. Hood, from Sierra Leone, was appointed to fill the vacancy.

122. Generally speaking the condition of the people for the year under review may be said to have been satisfactory, and with good prices obtaining in 1908 every one is satisfied.

123. The following returns are attached:—

- (1) Statements showing the imports and exports for the last five years.
- (2) A statement showing the imports and exports of specie and other articles for the last five years.
- (3) A statement showing shipping, inwards and outwards, for the last five years.

124. Returns showing imports and exports of the Colony for the last five years:—

Imports.

Year..	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	France.	French Colonies.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903	105,628	34,658	37,907	6,338	30,259	214,790
1904	88,529	36,824	48,443	4,603	19,031	197,430
1905	88,357	31,089	43,783	1,723	16,773	181,725
1906	142,751	30,769	64,694	5,534	36,741	280,489
1907	155,761	40,895	58,610	2,539	38,186	295,991
Total ...	581,026	174,235	253,437	20,737	140,990	1,170,425

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	France.	French Colonies.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903	9,405	4,546	254,114	6,650	18,025	290,740
1904	13,003	2,948	183,804	7,550	41,984	249,289
1905	10,283	3,069	140,436	4,169	26,439	184,396
1906	17,904	4,412	225,222	5,031	46,683	299,252
1907	25,221	2,975	238,488	6,568	17,396	290,648
Total ...	75,816	15,950	1,042,064	29,968	150,527	1,314,325

125. Return showing the imports and exports, inclusive of specie, for the last five years :—

Imports.

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Specie	126,273	108,719	123,456	167,168	149,368
Other articles ...	214,790	197,430	181,725	280,489	295,991
Total	341,063	306,140	305,181	447,657	445,359

Exports.

Articles.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Specie	43,277	61,994	95,876	129,426	117,828
Other articles ...	290,740	249,289	184,396	299,252	290,648
Total	334,017	311,283	280,272	428,678	408,476

126. Return showing the total shipping—inwards and outwards—during the last five years :—

Year.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1903	24,936	138,341	387,717
1904	232,001	135,559	367,560
1905	204,969	120,267	325,236
1906	255,165	149,350	404,515
1907	304,503	149,281	453,784

H. M. BRANDFORD GRIFFITH,
Acting Governor.

Bathurst, Gambia,

August, 1908.

APPENDIX.

ECONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE DURING
THE YEAR 1907 FOR THE COLONY OF THE GAMBIA.

Reports from the Imperial Institute have been made to the Government of the Colony on the following subjects, on the basis of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, followed when necessary, by technical trials by manufacturers and commercial experts. In many cases recommendations have been made as to the further action which is required in the Colony in order to develop the production of those materials for which it is probable that there would be a satisfactory commercial demand.

Rubber.—A specimen of *Ficus Vogelii* rubber was examined, and found to contain less resin than samples of this rubber previously received at the Imperial Institute from other parts of West Africa. A larger sample has been asked for in order that technical trials may be made.

Cotton.—A sample of unginned native cotton was of fairly good quality and somewhat similar to American cotton, but contained a quantity of stained fibre. It was valued at 7d. per lb. with "middling" American at 7'40d. per lb.

Jute and jute-like fibres.—The results of the examination of two samples of jute showed conclusively that jute of excellent quality can be grown in the Gambia; the specimens submitted were valued at £21 and £28 per ton.

A number of jute-like fibres from the Gambia have also been examined, including *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, *H. quinquelobus*, *H. rostellatus*, and *Urena lobata*.

Tanning-bark.—A sample of mangrove bark contained too little tannin to be worth consideration for export, but was of special interest on account of the unusually good and light-coloured leather it produced. The bark might be used locally for tanning, or for the manufacture of a tanning extract.

Oranges.—A trial consignment of Kombo (Brufut) oranges was forwarded in order to ascertain their suitability for the English market. The oranges were submitted to experts in London, who reported that the fruit had been gathered too soon, and was of poor appearance and quality. They agree that it is unlikely that Gambia oranges would be saleable on the English market unless fruit of considerably better quality and appearance could be shipped at a time which would enable consignments to reach this country before the large arrivals of Spanish oranges.

Guinea corn.—Specimens of guinea corn grown in the Gambia from Egyptian seed were found to be of excellent quality. This variety of guinea corn appears to be suitable for introduction into the Gambia, and careful experiments on a small scale were recommended with this object.

A number of new exhibits from the Gambia, which were received during the year have been added to the West African Court in the public galleries of the Imperial Institute, and descriptive labels prepared for them. A catalogue of the Gambia exhibits was published in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," Vol. V. (1907), No. 4, and is now on sale.

Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, the Superintendent of Agriculture for West Africa, has been in constant communication with the Imperial Institute on all matters connected with agricultural operations and development, and has transmitted numerous specimens of economic products for examination at the Imperial Institute.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from
the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	1906
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Asbanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast... ..	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong... ..	"
571	Malta	1907-1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907-1908
575	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.
45	Do. do.	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa... ..	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.
54	Newfoundland	Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony... ..	Rietfontein Area.

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PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 563.

GIBRALTAR.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 529.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1908.



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1908.

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No. 563.

GIBRALTAR.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 529.)

THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Gibraltar,

11th June, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the year 1907, with a report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

2. A small sketch map of Gibraltar is attached to the report.

I have, &c.,

FRED. EVANS,

Deputy Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE ANNUAL BLUE BOOK FOR 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The year 1907 commenced with an asset balance of £146,449; the revenue of the year was £83,804; total, £230,253. The expenditure, £71,670. The year therefore ended with a balance of £158,583.

The revenue exceeded the expenditure by a sum of £12,134.

The receipts for each of the last five years are shown in the following table:—

Heads of Revenue.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	32,888	41,064	36,554	39,001	34,160
Port Dues and Wharfage ...	5,821	6,156	5,872	6,479	6,405
Licences and Internal Revenue.	4,043	4,179	4,197	4,276	4,196
Fees and Reimbursements in Aid.	12,260	12,136	12,070	12,982	12,199
Post Office, &c.	12,211	13,088	16,551	16,329	13,039
Rents of Crown Property...	8,239	7,338	7,489	8,680	8,890
Interest on Investments ...	1,539	2,776	3,376	4,032	4,875
Miscellaneous	64	50	90	226	40
	77,065	86,787	86,199	92,005	83,804
Land Sales	15,275	758	1,324	—	—
Total Revenue	£ 92,340	87,545	87,523	92,005	83,804

As compared with the year 1906, there was a decrease of £8,201. The falling off was in the Customs and Post Office receipts. The tobacco duty produced £3,566 less than in 1906. £1,275 less was obtained from the duties on wines, spirits, and malt liquors. This is attributable to depression in trade and to the reduction in the garrison and completion of the Admiralty dock works. The loss of £3,290 on the Post Office receipts arises principally from the same cause, but the reduced rates of postage charged under the Postal Convention concluded at Rome in 1906, the transfer of the Morocco Agencies to Imperial Government control which took place at the commencement of the year, and the diminished sale of stamps to collectors, are contributory causes.

The expenditure of the year 1907 was £2,157 more than in 1906. The Establishment charges were increased by £1,124, there having been an increase of £1,577 on the personal

emoluments due to a general readjustment of salaries, and savings to the extent of £453 on "other charges."

A statement showing the expenditure of each of the last five years is appended:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£
Establishments :—					
(a) Personal Emoluments	32,161	32,536	32,147	34,264	35,841
(b) Other Charges ...	13,602	12,619	14,261	15,631	15,178
Pensions	1,923	2,135	2,199	2,323	2,309
Ecclesiastical Grants ...	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Public Works Recurrent ...	2,478	2,666	2,544	2,366	2,876
Crown Agents	42	48	37	45	45
Miscellaneous	3,347	2,735	3,307	2,808	2,765
Total Recurrent	£ 54,553	53,739	55,495	58,437	60,014
Extraordinary :—					
(a) Commercial Mole ...	10,216	8,473	4,704	—	—
(b) Other Works	700	2,712	3,943	11,076	11,656
Total Expenditure	£ 65,469	64,924	64,142	69,513	71,670

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

At the end of the year 1907 there was a balance of assets amounting to £158,583, as shown in the table below :—

Assets.		Liabilities.	
	£		£
Cash in Treasury	11,728	Deposits	894
Investments	141,576	Excess of Assets ...	158,583
Advances	4,287		
Sanitary Commissioners' loan	1,886		
Total	£ 159,477	Total	£ 159,477

TAXATION.

No change.

PUBLIC DEBT.

There is none.

CURRENCY.

British sterling is the legal tender under an Order in Council dated the 9th August, 1898. Spanish money is, however, in circulation, and is used in the payment of labourers' wages and the purchase of the usual necessities of life. There are 25 pesetas to the £1 sterling. The average local rate of exchange for the year was pesetas 27·55 to the £1.

PUBLIC BOARDS.

The Sanitary Commissioners constitute the only public board in Gibraltar. They are governed by "The Public Health Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1907" (Ordinance No. 10 of 1907), which regulates their powers and duties. Under this Ordinance they are empowered to borrow money on the security of the rates for certain specified periods and to an extent not exceeding the assessable value for two years of the property in Gibraltar subject to the payment of rates. Each loan is to be redeemed by annual instalments not exceeding thirty.

Particulars as to the rateable value of the premises, as ascertained at the valuation made on the 1st October last year, the Commissioners debt, revenue and expenditure, &c., are given below:—

1907.			
Rateable value of premises ...	£192,408	0	0
Extent of borrowing powers ...	384,816	0	0
Debt ...	244,624	0	0
Rate payable in the £1 ...	0	2	1
Assessments ...	18,047	0	0
Capital receipts ...	6,027	0	0
Capital expenditure ...	4,441	0	0
Assets ...	29,360	0	0
Liabilities ...	32,463	0	0
Excess of liabilities...	3,103	0	0
Revenue ...	51,801	0	0
Expenditure ...	55,919	0	0

The debt at the end of 1907, with Peseta loans converted at Pesetas 27 to the £1, £244,623 16s. 2d.

The borrowing powers of the Sanitary Commissioners are limited to twice the amount of the rateable value of the premises in Gibraltar, which, as ascertained by the revised tenement valuation on October 1st, 1907, is £192,408.

Particulars are given in the following statement:—

	Ptas.	£.
Debt on 31st December, 1906 ...	2,113,500	170,917
Amount raised during 1907:—		
H. 33. Fuel economizer. Amount required to complete the work ...		520
H. 54. Suction gas plant for Orange Bastion Pumping Station ...		700
H. 55. Relaying defective sewers ...		2,000
	2,113,500	174,137
Amount repaid in 1907 ...	101,000	4,050
Nett debt on 31st December, 1907...	2,012,500	170,087

The total amount of assessment rates collected in 1907 was made up thus:—

	£
Paid by Admiralty	1,607
„ War Department	3,824
„ Colonial Government	895
„ Civil community	11,720

With an estimated civil population of 19,000, the amount contributed by the civil community per head was 12s. 4d.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The only statistics available are those in respect of the undermentioned dutiable articles, and coal:—

Year.	Imports.				Exports.		
	Wine.	Spirits.	Ale and Porter.	Tobacco.	Wine.	Spirits.	Tobacco.
	Galls.	Galls.	Galls.	Lb.	Galls.	Galls.	Lb.
1903	179,489	86,865	842,800	3,426,022	17,479	51,495	2,542,721
1904	180,209	95,388	834,517	3,526,567	21,456	55,120	2,256,404
1905	172,249	100,377	842,876	3,864,487	25,794	60,034	2,337,108
1906	161,177	101,688	906,676	3,978,954	22,236	60,293	1,978,942
1907	146,443	90,448	689,455	3,895,299	18,584	60,366	1,933,283

The decrease in the imports is attributable to the reduction of the garrison and the prolonged absence of the Atlantic Fleet.

The following is a statement of the coal trade of the last five years:—

Year.	No. of steamers coaled.	No. of tons of coal taken.
1903	1,218	122,259
1904	1,291	153,257
1905	911	95,053
1906	1,378	162,837
1907	1,511	184,906

The figures of the year 1907 show the largest output of coal since 1901, when 1,855 ships took 217,927 tons.

During the year 169 foreign men-of-war (including torpedo vessels) took 28,053 tons of coal, as against 23,190 put on board 56 such men-of-war in 1906. The returns show a gradual improvement in the trade.

SHIPPING.

The number and tonnage of steamers and sailing vessels of each nationality which entered the port and cleared in each of the last two years are shown below :—

Steam Vessels.

Nationality.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1906.		1907.		1906.		1907.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Great Britain ..	1,853	3,055,663	1,901	3,280,131	1,856	3,041,605	1,869	3,277,267
Spain ..	356	140,306	374	133,739	334	142,821	354	131,345
Germany ..	268	826,307	265	838,984	270	843,290	264	958,759
Norway and Sweden.	177	143,724	195	145,761	190	144,035	193	144,970
France ..	158	125,853	151	137,936	158	122,595	151	137,936
Denmark ..	87	57,506	83	58,874	88	55,453	83	58,874
Italy ..	81	94,057	80	101,249	81	96,057	80	101,249
Holland ..	67	46,713	57	39,059	67	46,713	57	39,059
Greece ..	33	45,390	47	73,408	32	46,210	47	73,408
Austria ..	30	42,586	32	45,978	30	42,586	32	45,978
Belgium ..	21	19,649	20	19,957	21	19,649	20	19,957
Russia ..	38	30,961	28	26,531	38	30,961	28	26,531
Other Countries	14	6,394	13	8,808	13	6,373	13	8,808
Total Steam Vessels.	3,188	4,641,559	3,246	5,010,265	3,166	4,636,348	3,191	5,004,291

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	1906.		1907.		1906.		1907.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Great Britain ..	105	16,856	110	14,522	103	16,614	124	14,940
Spain ..	293	12,873	252	8,901	147	5,150	119	3,967
Portugal ..	53	2,748	54	3,071	10	1,104	12	1,098
Denmark ..	30	4,678	27	4,344	30	4,678	27	4,344
Norway ..	17	3,988	10	2,929	17	3,988	10	2,929
Russia ..	9	1,969	6	1,624	9	2,062	6	1,824
Italy ..	10	6,578	10	6,337	9	5,383	10	6,337
Holland ..	6	574	11	520	3	483	4	1,010
France ..	7	900	2	1,784	1	112	2	1,784
Germany ..	2	364	3	2,071	3	587	2	1,932
Other Countries	9	2,200	1	14	3	2,004	—	—
Total Sailing Vessels.	541	53,728	486	40,317	335	42,185	316	40,165
Total Steam Vessels.	3,188	4,641,559	3,246	5,010,265	3,166	4,636,348	3,191	5,004,291
Grand Total	3,729	4,695,287	3,732	5,056,582	3,561	4,678,533	3,507	5,044,456

III.—LEGISLATION.

Eleven Ordinances were passed during the year.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The number of scholars on the rolls and in average attendance, and the revenue and expenditure of the schools for the last two years are shown in the following tables:—

	Roman Catholic.	Hebrew.	Public.	Industrial.	Total.
1906—					
On Rolls	1,654	167	302	163	2,286
Average Attendance ...	1,406	114	218	125	1,863
1907—					
On Rolls	1,643	293	279	179	2,399
Average Attendance ...	1,406	157	210	127	1,900

Revenue and Expenditure.

	School Fees.	Government Grant.	Voluntary Contributions.	Total Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£
Roman Catholic :—					
1906	400	1,384	100	1,884	1,849
1907	411	1,404	140	1,955	1,912
Hebrew :—					
1906	62	114	147	323	475
1907	96	156	524	776	448
Public :—					
1906	54	221	45	320	276
1907	54	214	40	308	280
Infant and Industrial :—					
1906	29	125	—	154	182
1907	28	127	—	155	153

The school year ends on the 31st March. Grants-in-aid are regulated by a code which was revised in 1899. An improvement is shown both in the total number on the rolls and in average attendance.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS.

The total number of patients under treatment in the Colonial Hospital in 1907 was 691, or 59 more than in 1906. There were 506 males and 185 females under treatment. 441 were discharged cured, 119 were discharged as relieved, 45 as not improved, and 50 died. The daily average number in the hospital was 51 (38 males, 13 females). The largest period for which any inmate stayed was 412 days.

The following is a return of the numbers under treatment in the Colonial Hospital and Small-pox Hospital in each of the last two years:—

	Remaining at end of previous year.			Admitted during the year.			Total under treatment.	Discharged.			Died.	Remaining at end of year.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.		Cured.	Relieved.	Not Improved.		
1906. Hospital ..	36	8	44	459	129	588	632	423	84	28	46	51
Small-Pox..	12	3	15	70	37	107	122	99	—	3	11	9
	48	11	59	529	166	695	754	522	84	31	57	60
1907. Hospital ..	40	11	51	466	174	640	691	441	119	45	50	92
Small-Pox..	6	3	9	15	6	21	30	28	—	2	—	—
	46	14	60	481	180	661	721	469	119	47	50	92

The surgical operations numbered 203. There were eleven deaths.

The number of out-patients treated is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Non-paying Patients.					Total.	Paying Patients.	Total number of Out-patients treated.
	Sent in by							
	Police.	Commis- sioners.	Clergy.	Alcalde of Linea.	Urgent.			
1906	2,012	1	3,692	982	325	7,012	5,355	12,367
1907	5,690	—	10	3,216	335	9,251	609	9,860

The continued increase in the number of persons resident at Linea seeking gratuitous treatment at the Colonial Hospital on the recommendation of the Alcalde of that town necessitated a revision of the regulations, and the number is now limited to 25 a week.

The following figures give the cost of the hospital (including the Small-pox Hospital), exclusive of maintenance and repairs to buildings:—

Year.	Daily Average of Beds Occupied.	Gross Expenditure.	Cost per Bed.	Actual Cost per Bed after Deducting In-patients' Fees.	Fees Paid by Out-patients.	Number of Out-patients Treated.
1906	62	£ s. d. 6,366 9 0	£ s. d. 102 13 8	£ s. d. 88 13 5	£ s. d. 173 10 5	12,367
1907	54	6,304 8 8	116 14 11	103 1 0	19 14 2	9,860

Lunatic Asylum.

The total number of patients in the asylum at the end of the year was 31—23 males and eight females. There were admitted during the year eight males and four females. Four of the inmates died—one at the age of 76, one aged 73, and two aged 39 and 41 respectively.

The cost of the institution, exclusive of the charges for maintenance and repairs of buildings, and medicines, which are supplied at the cost of the Colonial Hospital, was £1,776. The fees from paying patients totalled £135.

SAVINGS BANK.

The transactions of the Savings Bank show a falling off in the number of depositors and in the total amount deposited, and an increase in the amount of the sterling withdrawals.

At the end of 1907, 3,861 depositors had standing to their credit £91,365 and Pesetas 821,322. There was a surplus of assets of £28,608.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

There were no important changes in the police force during the year, the numbers being 58 of all ranks, with nine special constables temporarily employed. The cost of the police in 1907 was £6,122.

PRISONS.

There were 204 persons committed to prison during the year; 187 men, 5 women, and 12 juveniles. This number shows a small increase of 7 when contrasted with the number of committals in 1906.

The health of the prisoners was generally good; there were but 3 admissions to the sick list, and no deaths. The punishments for breaches of prison discipline were few. No corporal punishment was inflicted.

The cost of the Prison in 1907 was £1,344, exclusive of the charges for repairs and alteration of buildings and medical supplies.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police in 1907 was larger than in previous years, but the offences were mostly of a trivial character, and there was no increase of serious crime. In 1903 the offences reported numbered 724; they rose to 925 and 986 in 1904 and 1905 respectively, and to 1,128 and 1,387 in 1906 and 1907.

The increase is largely attributable to the activity of the police in suppressing minor breaches of the laws relating to street cries and noises, hawkers, obstructions, hackney carriages, &c., and the admission of aliens into the garrison, &c.; to the energy displayed by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and to the proceedings of the Sanitary Commissioners taken with a view to the recovery of rates and the more efficient administration of the sanitary regulations.

In 1903 the daily average number of prisoners in gaol was 19·44, in 1907 it was only 15·63. In 1906 it was 20·22.

As will be seen hereunder, half the total number of those brought before the magistrate were aliens:—

	1907.
Total number of offences reported to the police	1,387
These consisted of:—	
Offences against the person	76
Offences against property	112
Other offences	1,199
There were heard in the police court	1,341
Nationality of Offenders:—	
Aliens	672
Maltese	56
Natives of Gibraltar	505
Other British subjects	108

The cases heard were disposed of as follows:—

Year.	Discharged for want of prosecu- tion or evidence.	Dismissed on the merits.	Discharged with a caution.	Committed for trial in the Supreme Court.	Summarily convicted.	Extra- dited.
1907	145	85	130	10	970	1

The statements below show the nature of the offences with which the persons summarily convicted were charged, and in what manner the cases were disposed of:—

Nature of offences.	1907.
Assaults and other offences against the person...	28
Malicious injuries to property (a)	5
Prædial larceny (b)	—
Offences against property other than (a) and (b)	38
Offences against Revenue Acts, Health Acts, &c.	899
Offences against Masters and Servants Acts ...	—
Other offences	—
Total	970

Punishments.	Number of Cases. 1907.
Fine	751
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety	77
Peremptory imprisonment	94
Whipping	14
Bound over or other trivial punishment... ..	6
Special Orders	28
Total	970

Ten persons were committed by the police magistrate for trial in the supreme court:—

- 1 for murder.
- 2 for offences against the person.
- 5 for offences against property.
- 1 for uttering foreign counterfeit coin.
- 1 for an offence against the provisions of "The Tobacco Ordinance, Gibraltar, 1896."

There was a case for an offence against the person which stood over from the year 1906, making in all 11 cases heard in the Supreme Court in 1907.

In the murder case there was a verdict of manslaughter with a recommendation to mercy, and a sentence of penal servitude for three years was imposed.

In the case under the Tobacco Ordinance, the Grand Jury did not find a true bill.

In the case of uttering counterfeit coin, the accused, who had been out on bail on his own recognizance, failed to appear, and a Bench Warrant was issued for his arrest.

A verdict of guilty was returned in each of the other cases.

A return of the number of indictments, &c., in the Supreme Court during each of the last two years is given hereunder:—

Offences.	1906.	1907.
Manslaughter	2	1
Other offences against the person	2	3
Offences against property ...	-	5
Miscellaneous offences	1	2
	—	—
Total	5	11
	—	—

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The population at the end of 1907 has been estimated at 23,651, as detailed hereunder:—

	Census, 1901.	Estimated, 1907.
City and Garrison (Civil).		
British subjects, other than Maltese	17,172	15,756
Maltese	615	392
Aliens on Permit	2,568	2,218
Port and Harbour (Civil).		
British subjects other than Maltese	149	—
Maltese	2	—
Aliens on Permit	479	278
Total	20,985	18,644
Military Population	6,475	5,007
Total Population	27,460	23,651

The sexes are shown hereunder:—

	Census, 1901.		Estimated, 1907.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
British subjects (Civil), other than Maltese.	8,200	9,121	7,567	8,189
Maltese	446	171	319	73
Aliens on Permit	1,382	1,665	994	1,502
Military... ..	5,701	774	4,101	906
	15,729	11,731	12,981	10,670
	27,460		23,651	

Among the British subjects there are 47 natives of India, of whom all but five come from Hyderabad.

Excluding the naval and military and the floating population from consideration, the births registered during the year exceeded the deaths by 139. Details for two years are appended:—

Population.					1906.	1907.	
Births	...	...	Civil	...	...	457	435
			Naval and Military	...	...	139	126
			Floating	...	...	—	—
	Total	...	...	...	596	561	
Marriages	...	...	Civil	...	...	128	151
			Naval and Military	...	...	32	27
			Floating	...	...	—	—
	Total	...	...	...	160	178	
Deaths	...	...	Civil	...	...	336	296
			Naval and Military	...	...	56	37
			Floating	...	...	35	26
	Total	...	...	...	427	359	

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Medical Officer of Health reports that the death-rate in 1907 was 15·2 per 1,000, which, from an examination of the

records of twenty years, appears to be the lowest recorded. The year was remarkably free from epidemic disease, and the low death-rate may be attributed partly to this cause and partly to improved sanitation brought about by the Sanitary Commissioners.

CLIMATE.

Particulars with regard to the temperature and rainfall are given in the returns hereunder. The temperature in 1907 reached a higher maximum than in either of the previous five years; a lower minimum temperature and a greater 24 hours' rainfall were also recorded.

The rainfall of 4·06 inches on the 15th November is the heaviest experienced since 1901, when (on the 25th November) a rainfall of 5·50 inches was recorded.

Air Temperature.

Month.	Mean.	
	1906.	1907.
January	55·5	54·5
February	53·5	53·2
March	57·8	58·6
April	60·6	62·6
May	66·8	66·3
June	74·1	74·3
July	77·0	75·3
August	79·3	78·8
September	74·3	75·1
October	68·7	64·8
November	59·9	59·8
December	54·3	58·4
Mean maximum	70·8	70·6
Mean minimum	51·7	49·6
Mean for the year...	65·1	65·1
Absolute maximum ...	On 11 Aug.	On 20 June
	93·0	94·8
Absolute minimum ...	On 6 Feb.	On 3 Feb.
	31·6	26·8

Rainfall.

Month.				1906.	1907.
				ins.	ins.
January	...	...	...	·45	2·93
February	...	...	...	·38	2·93
March	...	...	...	4·76	·15
April	...	...	...	3·81	1·68
May	...	...	...	2·64	1·10
June	...	...	...	·89	—
July	...	...	...	—	·10
August	...	...	...	·55	·08
September	...	...	...	8·50	1·63
October	...	...	...	2·12	5·00
November	...	...	...	5·81	10·42
December	...	...	...	2·45	4·40
Total				32·36	30·42
Maximum in 24 hours				On 28 Sept. 2·46	On 15 Nov. 4·06

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

An examination of the figures given in the following statements shows that there was a general falling off in the business of the Post Office in 1907. This was largely due to the reduction of the garrison, but depression of trade and the transfer on the 1st January of the Morocco Agencies to the control of the Imperial Government were contributory causes. The sale of postage stamps was £3,182 less than in 1906.

TELEGRAPHS.

The Government telegraphs are worked by the Eastern Telegraph Company under an agreement with the Colonial Government.

TELEPHONES.

There are none under Government control.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF LETTERS, &C., DEALT WITH.

		Internal.	External.		Total.
			United Kingdom and other places.		
			From	To	
Letters and Post Cards	{ 1906	117,832	1,064,388	2,110,758	3,292,978
	{ 1907	130,000	875,004	1,415,596	2,420,600
Registered articles ...	{ 1906	—	33,620	66,548	100,168
	{ 1907	—	26,951	45,630	72,581
Newspapers ...	{ 1906	4,836	664,950	78,312	748,098
	{ 1907	728	392,392	69,888	463,008
Book packets, samples, and Circulars.	{ 1906	—	84,526	35,464	119,990
	{ 1907	52	69,108	12,228	81,385
Parcels ...	{ 1906	—	29,220	10,998	40,218
	{ 1907	—	23,257	8,448	31,705
Dead Letters ...	{ 1906	—	5,142	6,280	11,422
	{ 1907	—	4,450	4,890	9,340
Dead registered articles	{ 1906	—	320	110	430
	{ 1907	—	68	87	155
Dead Newspapers ...	{ 1906	—	167	2,882	3,049
	{ 1907	—	88	2,216	2,304

MONEY AND POSTAL ORDERS TRANSACTIONS.

		Issued.				
		1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
United Kingdom and other countries—		£	£	£	£	£
Money orders ...	...	15,025	16,879	17,685	18,580	16,641
Postal orders ...	...	20,202	23,603	29,993	33,766	26,650
Malta ...	...	991	740	1,423	1,205	482
Tangier—						
Local money orders ...	...	560	781	776	817	398
Total ...	...	36,778	42,003	49,877	54,368	44,171

		Paid.				
		1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
United Kingdom and other countries—		£	£	£	£	£
Money orders ...	...	3,876	3,792	4,755	5,326	5,522
Postal orders ...	...	3,871	4,324	6,067	6,702	5,388
Malta ...	...	211	632	414	185	58
Tangier—						
Local money orders ...	...	2,267	1,808	1,539	1,410	1,333
Total ...	...	10,216	10,556	12,775	13,623	12,301

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

There are no militia, volunteers, or semi-military forces.

The total expenditure charged in the accounts of the District Paymaster in respect of the military forces in Gibraltar during the year is returned at £325,152. This does not include sums charged by army agents for officers' pay, &c., and sums paid by the War Department for building materials, clothing, arms, ammunition, &c.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

There is but little to be said in the way of general remarks. The most noticeable feature of the returns is the financial position. During each of the last five years, notwithstanding an annual expenditure averaging nearly £11,000 on public works of an exceptional character, the receipts have exceeded the expenditure by sums varying from £12,000 to £26,000, and (including £17,357 received from the sale of certain properties) amounting in all to £107,499. At the end of 1907 there was an asset balance of £158,583.

Another matter for notice is the reduction shown in the civil population. Although this has been brought about in part by the continued strict application of the Aliens Order in Council, the exodus of labourers and their families from Linea, consequent on the completion of the dock and harbour works here, has had its influence, as a large number of natives have gone to Linea to occupy the vacant houses, rent being much cheaper there than in Gibraltar.

In the coal trade there has been some small improvement, the returns showing the largest output of coal since 1901. There has been, however, a general depression in trade, due to the completion of public works, naval and military, and the reduction of the garrison.

To some small extent the troubles in Morocco have benefited the community, the port having been frequently visited by French vessels of war, which remain for brief periods, taking in supplies and permitting their men to take leave on shore.

A considerable number of refugees, mostly of the poorer classes, from Casablanca and other towns on the coast of Morocco sought an asylum in Gibraltar in August and September last, in consequence of the disturbed state of those places; but for obvious reasons it was only possible to allow a very limited number to remain, even temporarily, and the greater number had resort to Algeciras and other neighbouring towns in Spain, where they could be more conveniently housed

and their wants better met than in Gibraltar, with its limited accommodation.

The state of the public health in Gibraltar was excellent throughout the year. The death-rate was the lowest recorded for 20 years (15·2 per 1,000), and we were remarkably free from epidemic disease. This bears testimony to the excellent work of the Sanitary Commissioners, under whose supervision the sanitary work of Gibraltar is carried out.

Letters Patent passed under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, appointing His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught to be Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief of the British Troops and High Commissioner in the Mediterranean, were received during the year and duly published.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal, the Duke of Fife, and the Princesses Alexandra and Maud visited Gibraltar twice during the year and took up residence at the "Governor's Cottage," the summer residence of the Governor, on the east slope of the Rock.

FRED. EVANS,

Colonial Secretary.

10th June, 1908.



COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weibaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate... ..	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 573.

GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 534.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729—37.] *Price 4d.*

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No. 573.

GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 534.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Accra,

3rd July, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, an able report on the Blue Book for 1907, prepared by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RODGER,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Crewe,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY FOR THE YEAR 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The most interesting facts disclosed in the following general review of the financial position of the Colony at the end of the year are that in 1907 revenue surpassed the revenue of any previous year and exceeded expenditure by £91,594 1s., and that expenditure included:—

- (a) £15,000 repaid to the Imperial Exchequer;
- (b) £10,980 contributed towards the Sinking Fund for the extinction of the Colony's Funded Debt.

Revenue.

1. The revenue for the year had been estimated at £676,470, but actually amounted to £708,718, an increase over the estimate of £32,248; and over the revenue of the previous year of £25,617.

2. The amounts collected under the several Heads of Revenue in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories, are shown in the following statements:—

Heads of Revenue.	Actual Revenue to 31st Decem- ber, 1907.	Revenue for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Customs	414,545 1 11	386,284 2 5	28,260 19 6	—
2. Light Dues	2,346 14 0	1,963 2 0	383 12 0	—
3. Licences, &c. ...	23,467 7 8	21,781 6 4	1,686 1 4	—
4. Fees of Court, &c. ...	31,057 17 9	37,128 3 1	—	6,070 5 4
5. Post Office ...	3,206 4 5	3,080 18 8	175 5 9	—
6. Rents of Government Property.	1,268 9 4	1,271 10 0	—	3 0 8
7. Interest... ..	380 3 10	231 7 1	148 16 9	—
8. Miscellaneous ...	3,673 18 10	3,540 19 11	132 18 11	—
9. Ashanti... ..	37,248 18 4	32,328 17 10	4,920 0 6	—
10. Northern Territories...	18,089 18 3	14,013 3 4	4,076 14 11	—
11. Railways	168,433 15 2	171,528 5 7	—	3,094 10 5
Total ...	708,718 9 6	673,101 16 3	39,784 9 8	9,167 16 5
Imperial Grant—				
Northern Territories ..	5,000 0 0	10,000 0 0	—	5,000 0 0
Grand Total ..	708,718 9 6	683,101 16 3	39,784 9 8	14,167 16 5

Revenue of Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

Ashanti.				Northern Territories.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Caravan tolls ...	5,174	19	9	Caravan tolls ...	15,852	9	9
Court fines ...	1,101	6	6	Court fines, &c. ...	422	12	9
Market and slaughter-house fees.	941	5	3	Market and slaughter-house fees.	470	7	6
Sale of reserve rations	18	10	9	Sale of provisions ...	1,061	8	5
Hunting licences ...		10	0	Hunting licences ...	30	1	0
Ferry dues ...	585	3	7	Ferry dues ...	21	15	3
Sale of stamps, post-cards, &c.	4,685	7	5	Sale of stamps, post-cards, &c.	125	13	5
Auctioneers' licences...	10	0	0	Miscellaneous ...	66	6	5
Liquor licences ...	4,120	0	0	Sale of live stock ...	39	3	9
Dog licences ...		22	12				
Royalties ...	18,054	7	3				
Rents from Government lands.	1,507	0	4				
Miscellaneous ...	344	3	6				
Contribution from Ashanti Goldfields Corporation towards administration of Obuassi.	631	11	6				
Wine and beer licences	42	0	0				
Firearms and ammunition licences.	10	0	0				
Total, ...	£37,248	18	4	Total ...	£18,089	18	3

The principal items of increase are:—

	£
Customs ...	28,260
Revenue for Ashanti ...	4,920
„ Northern Territories ...	4,076

3. The increase in Customs Duties occurs mainly under *ad valorem* duties, the collections under this sub-head exceeding those of the previous year by £24,128. Specific duties only increased by £4,132; this is explained by the fact that large withdrawals from bond were made in December, 1906, in

anticipation of increased duties on spirits which came into operation on the 1st January, 1907.

The increase in revenue from Ashanti is mainly attributable to Royalties and Spirit Licences. The increase in Royalties is due to two causes—the payment in 1907 of amounts which should have been paid in 1906, and an increase in the output of gold by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation and the Sansu Mine. There was a large decrease (£7,309) in Ashanti revenue derived from Caravan Tolls owing to abolition of collecting stations on the Gold Coast frontier.

The increase in revenue from the Northern Territories is almost entirely in respect of Caravan Tolls.

4. The two decreases in revenue calling for remark are Fees of Court £6,070, and Railways £3,094.

Fees of Court.—The decrease occurs mainly under the sub-heads of Stamp Duties and Mines Surveys. The Mines Survey Department was reduced in 1907, as most of the principal mining properties had by then been surveyed, and less work was accordingly undertaken than in the previous year. The decrease in Stamp Duties is due to a falling off in the number of civil cases brought before the Courts.

Railway.—The decrease in railway revenue is principally due to the reduction of certain rates, including those on spirits and mining machinery.

Expenditure.

5. The estimated expenditure for the year was £792,040, the actual expenditure £617,124, or £11,781 less than the expenditure for 1906.

The savings on the estimates are mainly under the heads of (i) Charge on account of Public Debt £33,347, and (ii) Repayment of Loans £105,000, and are due to the proposed Loan for Railway and other Public Works not having been raised during the year, as was contemplated when the Estimates were prepared. Also provision was made under (ii) for a repayment of £100,000 of the Colony's debt to the Imperial Exchequer, from Surplus Balances. These balances, however, have been temporarily advanced on Loan Works, and will not be available for general expenditure until the new Loan is raised.

There was also a saving of £9,117 under the head of Railways, due to economies effected in working expenses.

6. The principal excesses of actual over estimated expenditure were under the heads of (a) "West African Frontier Force, 2nd Battalion," £3,433; (b) "Miscellaneous Services," £2,931; and (c) "Pensions and Gratuities, £1,467;

(a) is due to the introduction in 1906 of the Imprest System, which resulted in the expenditure under this head for

November and December of that year appearing in the accounts for 1907, no provision having been made in the Estimates to meet it.

(b) is mainly due to a sum of £2,147, the cost of the Railway Reconnaissance Survey in 1898 from Accra to Kpong, having been adjusted and charged under this head during the year under review.

7. The following tables show the expenditure in detail, compared with 1906:—

Heads of Expenditure.	Actual Expenditure to 31st December, 1907.	Expenditure for same period of preceding year.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Governor and Legislature ..	5,227 12 1	5,808 18 1	—	381 6 0
2. Supreme Court	7,764 10 5	8,529 3 0	—	764 12 7
3. Law Officers	2,368 7 0	2,118 14 8	279 12 4	—
4. Colonial Secretary's Office ..	5,368 3 2	4,754 15 3	603 7 11	—
5. Native Affairs Department ..	1,747 14 7	2,229 10 1	—	481 15 6
6. Mines Department	1,337 16 11	1,028 8 3	309 8 8	—
7. Printing Office	6,194 14 6	6,184 12 6	10 2 0	—
8. Provincial and District Com- missioners.	17,848 2 11	16,706 4 8	1,141 13 3	—
9. Ashanti	26,496 9 3	26,239 4 9	257 4 6	—
10. Northern Territories	24,304 5 1	13,603 7 7	10,700 17 6	—
11. Treasury	10,933 8 1	10,194 10 1	438 18 0	—
12. Customs	21,230 0 11	20,310 2 11	919 18 0	—
12a. Customs Preventive Services ..	14,494 0 10	16,438 13 9	—	1,942 12 11
13. Lighthouses, Signal Stations and Buoys.	1,671 13 6	743 0 11	928 12 7	—
14. Transport Department	1,872 18 3	2,321 16 8	—	448 18 5
14a. Transport	21,670 8 6	15,192 17 3	6,477 11 3	—
15. Post and Telegraphs	20,715 8 0	20,995 11 1	—	280 3 1
15a. Post and Telegraphs Extra- ordinary.	5,401 7 9	995 0 10	4,406 6 11	—
16. Public Works	13,984 4 10	13,910 17 5	83 7 5	—
16a. Public Works Recurrent	14,892 12 5	14,940 5 4	52 7 1	—
17. Railways	92,313 5 2	89,172 18 2	3,140 7 0	—
18. Agricultural Department	6,268 5 6	4,860 17 0	1,407 8 6	—
19. Medical	32,164 17 8	31,323 0 0	341 17 8	—
20. Sanitary	3,079 16 6	2,713 13 0	366 3 6	—
21. Education	10,722 19 6	9,723 5 9	999 13 9	—
22. Ecclesiastical	532 7 0	601 13 0	—	69 6 0
23. Public Cemeteries	487 7 11	492 17 5	—	25 9 8
24. W.A.F.F., G.C. Regt.	65,326 10 1	60,969 13 9	4,356 16 4	—
24a. W.A.F.F., 2nd Batt.	3,433 12 5	24,180 16 11	—	20,756 4 6
24b. Constabulary, N.T.	9,163 1 10	—	9,163 1 10	—
25. Volunteers	2,652 6 6	1,852 19 11	799 6 7	—
26. Police	24,892 18 11	20,932 5 8	3,960 13 5	—
27. Prisons	11,719 4 4	12,007 11 7	—	288 7 3
28. Audit	2,663 14 1	2,603 0 5	60 13 8	—
29. Mines Surveys	4,517 0 6	13,372 7 11	—	8,855 7 5
30. Miscellaneous Services	8,067 9 9	8,404 11 0	1,662 18 9	—
31. Pensions and Gratuities	9,984 1 5	9,027 16 6	936 4 11	—
32. Charge on Account of Public Debt.	66,822 9 10	69,214 11 7	—	2,392 1 9
33. Repayments of Loans	15,000 0 0	26,598 18 11	—	11,598 18 11
Total	595,415 7 11	589,895 13 5	53,804 18 4	4,285 3 10
Public Works Extraordinary	21,482 1 1	38,786 1 8	—	17,304 0 7
Works chargeable to Surplus Balan- ces (Accra Water Works).	222 4 9	—	222 4 9	—
Total	617,119 13 9	628,681 15 1	54,027 3 1	65,589 4 5
Services provided by Imperial Grant:—				
Ashanti Disturbances	4 14 9	224 7 11	—	219 13 2
Grand Total	617,124 8 6	628,906 3 0	54,027 3 1	65,808 17 7

8. The following statements show the expenditure in 1907 charged against Ashanti and the Northern Territories:—

Ashanti.				Northern Territories.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Ashanti (Head 9 of Estimates).	26,496	9	3	Northern Territories (Head 10 of Estimates).	24,304	5	1
Treasury ...	781	4	9	Treasury ...	605	10	10
Transport Department	490	0	0	Post and Telegraphs	577	3	10
Post and Telegraphs	1,174	18	9	Post and Telegraphs	5,289	8	1
Post and Telegraphs Extraordinary.	111	19	8	Public Works	293	9	0
Public Works ...	373	17	9	Medical ...	4,780	17	10
Public Works Extraordinary.	1,400	16	4	Sanitary ...	12	0	0
Agricultural Department.	221	19	1	W.A.F.F. (2nd Batt.)	3,433	12	5
Medical ...	4,678	14	9	Constabulary...	9,163	1	10
W.A.F.F., G.C. Regt. (proportion of cost chargeable to Ashanti)	45,114	9	8	W.A.F.F., G.C. Regt. (proportion of cost chargeable to Northern Territories).	5,605	0	3
Volunteers ...	203	7	11				
Police ...	779	12	2				
Prisons ...	475	3	0				
Total ...	£82,302	13	1	Total ...	£54,064	9	2

9. As stated in paragraph 5 the total expenditure for the year was £11,781 less than that for the previous year.

10. As compared with 1906 the principal decreases in expenditure were:—

(i) "West African Frontier Force, 2nd Battalion," £20,756 4s. 6d.—Due to the disbandment of the Battalion at the end of 1906, to make way for a Force of Constabulary, which has been maintained at less than half the cost.

(ii) "Mines Surveys," £8,855.—Due to the reduction of the Survey Staff and consequent amount of work undertaken.

(iii) "Repayment of Loans," £11,598.—Due to only three instalments of £5,000, each having been repaid to the Imperial Exchequer, on account of the Colony's debt, as against four in 1906, and to an adjustment of the accounts between the Colony and the Imperial Exchequer, made in 1906, which increased the expenditure of that year by £6,598.

(iv) "Public Works Extraordinary," £17,304.

11. The principal increases were:—

(i) "Northern Territories," £10,700.—Mainly due to the reorganization and increase of the Administrative Staff of the Northern Territories.

(ii) "Transport," £6,477.—This increase is mainly due to increased expenditure under the items of "Railway Fares" and "Freight on Stores by Railway," such increased expenditure being more apparent than real. From the 1st January, 1907, an arrangement came into force under which £6,000 is

paid annually to the railway for the carriage of Government passengers and goods. The whole sum was provided under "transport," whereas the expenditure has, in previous years, been sub-divided and charged under other heads.

(iii) "Post and Telegraphs Extraordinary," £4,406.—Due to expenditure on the extension of the telegraph system in the Northern Territories.

(iv) "Railways," £3,140.—Railway expenditure in 1907 includes £15,212 on account of capital improvements as against £10,727 expended in 1906.

(v) "Constabulary, Northern Territories," £9,163.—This force was only established in 1907.

The following is a comparative statement of the total revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Revenue.			Expenditure.		
Year.	Amount.	Remarks.	Year.	Amount.	Remarks.
1903	£ 577,552 16 1	Inclodes £23,000 Grant-in-aid of Northern Territories.	1903	£ 593,956 7 9	Inclodes £14,624 8s. 5d. expended on account of Ashanti disturbances.
1904	652,193 0 0	Inclodes £31,800 4s. 4d. Grant-in-aid of Northern Territories.	1904	622,376 11 5	Inclodes £5,612 0s. 7d. expended on account of Ashanti disturbances.
1905	586,221 8 1	Inclodes £13,759 6s. 6d. Grant-in-aid.	1905	616,118 11 2	Inclodes £4,106 15s. 2d. on account of Ashanti disturbances; and £20,000 repayment of loans.
1906	683,101 16 3	Inclodes £10,000 Grant-in-aid.	1906	628,906 3 0	Inclodes £224 7s. 11d. on account of Ashanti disturbances; and £26,598 18s. 11d. repayment of loans.
1907	708,718 9 6	Inclodes £5,000 Grant-in-aid.	1907	617,124 8 6	Inclodes £25,980 on account of repayment of loans.

(B.) TAXATION.

The only forms of direct taxation in the Colony proper are the taxes on vehicles and the house rate levied under the Town Councils Ordinance. In the towns of Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi these items form part of the revenue of their respective municipalities.

In Ashanti and the Northern Territories taxes on caravans are collected at certain places situated on the main roads, where a European officer is permanently or temporarily stationed. As before stated, the collection of these tolls has been abolished on roads leading from Ashanti into the Gold Coast Colony.

The rates are as follows:—

Ashanti.

	s.	d.
For each horse	5	0
For each head of cattle, except calves	4	0
For each calf over three months of age	2	0
For each sheep or goat	0	6
For each lamb or kid over three months of age	0	3
For each donkey-load of spirits	10	0
For each donkey-load of kola or rubber	6	0
For each donkey-load of goods, excepting farm produce	4	0
For each carrier-load of spirits	5	0
For each carrier-load of kola or rubber	3	0
For each carrier-load of goods, excepting farm produce	2	0

Northern Territories.

	s.	d.
For each horse	5	0
For each head of cattle, except calves	4	0
For each calf over three months of age	2	0
For each sheep or goat	0	6
For each lamb or kid over three months of age	0	3
For each donkey-load of kola or rubber	6	0
For each donkey-load of goods, excepting farm produce	4	0
For each carrier-load of kola or rubber	3	0
For each carrier-load of goods, excepting farm produce	2	0

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The following is a detailed statement of the Assets and Liabilities of the Colony on the 31st December, 1907:—

GOLD COAST, 1907.

11

1907. 31st Dec.	ASSETS.			LIABILITIES.		
	Investments:—	On Account of	£ s. d.	Inter-Colonial Accounts (due by the	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Savings Bank	...	13,708 9 1	Gold Coast).	1,885 0 11	
	P.O. Guarantee Fund	...	6,124 19 8	Prisoners' Property	83 1 4	
	Bank of British	...	10,000 0 0	Transport Agency	148 17 8	
	West Africa, Ltd.	...		Police Reward Fund	829 15 1	
			29 893 8 9	W.A.F.F. Reward Fund	1,486 3 6	
	Inter-Colonial Accounts (due to the			Bank of British West Africa, Ltd.	10,000 0 0	
	Gold Coast).		10,841 10 1	Official Administrator	803 8 6	
	Railway Open Lines Suspense Account		953 9 0	Chief Registrar	1,383 0 2	
	General Manager Railway Open Lines		17,216 13 9	Customs Duties	349 12 9	
	Transport Agency	...	148 17 8	Public Officers' Guarantee Fund	6,941 13 1	
	General Post Office, London	...	2,555 7 0	Inland Money Orders	132 16 0	
	Loan Account	...	382,248 18 7	Savings Bank	15,036 6 1	
	Sundry Authorised Advances	...	3,421 4 2	Through Money Orders	357 13 8	
	General Imprest Account	...	417,386 0 3	Paymaster, W.A.F.F., 1st Batt., Gold	76 18 8	
			87,994 0 11	Coast Regt.		
				Paymaster, W.A.F.F., 2nd Batt., Gold	12 6 7	
				Coast Regt.		
				Rents on Concessions	410 0 0	
				Railway Open Lines Deposit Account	1,108 16 6	
				Drafts between Stations	4,832 13 9	
				Sheriff	428 3 1	
				Postal Orders	79 16 1	0 11 8
				Sundry Small Deposits	3,644 13 0	
				N.T. Constabulary Reward Fund	304 13 0	
				Postmaster-General	6,310 15 8	
				Drafts and Remittances	...	56,586 8 1
				Surplus and Deficit Account (net	...	755 5 6
				Excess of Assets over Liabilities).	...	477,871 16 4
			£535,213 9 11			£535,213 9 11

The excess of assets over liabilities at 1st January, 1907, was £386,277 15s. 4d. At the close of the year the excess stood at £477,871 16s. 4d. The increase is explained as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Excess at 31st December, 1906...	386,277	15	4
The Revenue of 1907 was	708,718	9	6
	1,094,996	4	10
The Expenditure of 1907 amounted to	617,124	8	6
Leaving an excess at 31st December, 1907 of ...	£477,871	16	4

The surplus is accounted for as follows:—

<i>Assets.</i>			
	£	s.	d.
General Imprest Account (cash in hand)	87,994	0	11
General Assets as shown in above table exclusive of advances made for Loan works from Surplus Funds ...	64,970	10	5
Advances made for Loan Works from Surplus Funds pending the issue of a further loan ...	382,248	18	7
	£535,213	9	11

<i>Liabilities.</i>			
	£	s.	d.
Sundry items shown in above detailed statement ...	56,586	8	1
Drafts and Remittances	755	5	6
	57,341	13	7

Surplus ... £477,871 16 4

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

On 31st December, 1907, the Public Debt of the Colony amounted to £2,206,964 16s. 7d., as against £2,252,743 9s. 2d. on 31st December, 1906. The reduction of £45,778 12s. 7d. is accounted for as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Repayment on account of the debt to the Imperial Exchequer ...	15,000	0	0
Reduction of Crown Agents' Advances on account of Loan Works ...	65,158	18	5
	£80,158	18	5

During the year the claim of the Northern Nigeria Government for ordinary expenditure on troops lent was accepted and was added to the public debt. The amount is... 34,380 5 10

The net reduction during the year was therefore ... £45,778 12 7

The funded portion of the debt amounted to £1,098,000 5s. 9d., and the amount standing to the credit of the Sinking Fund for the extinction of the debt was £30,722 14s. 3d.

The following statement shows in detail the particulars of the Public Debt:—

1. Imperial Exchequer—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
i. Ashanti Expedition, 1896 (due to the War Department)	98,798	3	6			
ii. West India Regiment, 1897-8 (due to the War Department)	10,051	15	2			
iii. Telegraph lines to the Northern Territories 1897-8 (due to Imperial Government)	29,441	10	8			
iv. Ashanti War, 1900	469,425	5	11			
	607,716	15	3			
Less repayments	61,598	18	11			
	546,117	16	4			
v. Government of Northern Nigeria (for ordinary ex- penditure on troops lent during the Ashanti dis- turbances, 1900)	34,380	5	10	580,498	2	2

2. Railway Purposes and Harbour Works—

i. 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock issued in March, 1902	1,035,000	0	0			
ii. 3 per cent. Inscribed Stock issued against authorised loan of £665,000	63,000	5	9			
iii. Advanced by C.A. pend- ing issue of authorised G.C. loans	528,466	8	8	1,626,466	14	5
				£2,206,964	16	7

(E.) CURRENCY.

Legal Tender.

1. The currency and legal tender is British sterling with the addition of the undermentioned French, Spanish, and

American gold coins, the values of which are fixed by the Demonetisation Ordinance No. 2 of 1880:—

	Nominal Value.	Legal Value.
French—		£ s. d.
Napoleon	20 francs.	0 15 10
Spanish—		
Doubloon	16 dollars.	3 4 0
Half Doubloon	8 "	1 12 0
American—		
Double Eagle	20 dollars.	4 2 0
Eagle	10 "	2 1 0
Half Eagle... ..	5 "	1 0 6
Quarter Eagle	2 " 50 c.	0 10 3

2. British silver coins are legal tender to an unlimited amount; British bronze coins are legal tender up to an amount not exceeding one shilling. There is a small circulation of the United States half-dollar, but the coin is not legal tender, and is not accepted by the Government; its current value is two shillings.

The use of bronze coinage has increased to a marked degree in the more civilised parts of the Colony and Ashanti. In the Accra markets copper coins have almost entirely superseded cowries, and in the larger Coast towns and in Coomassie and Obuasi they are now extensively circulated. In proof of this statement, it may be pointed out that whereas the importation of bronze in 1903 was only £25, in the year under review it exceeded £1,100. The objection to gold, which at one time was hardly ever in circulation amongst the natives, seems to have entirely disappeared.

3. The following statement shows the amount of gold, silver, and bronze coinage imported during the past two years:—

Year.	Gold.	Silver.	Bronze.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1906 ...	6,604 0 0	419,474 10 9	920 0 0	426,998 10 9
1907 ...	29,256 0 0	406,636 4 0	1,100 0 2	436,992 4 2

Banks.

4. The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, is the only commercial bank established in the Colony and its Dependencies, and has branches at Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi, Axim, and Coomassie.

(F.) MUNICIPAL BODIES.

Municipalities have been established in the towns of Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi, under the provisions of the Town Councils Ordinance of 1894. These bodies consist of eight members, of whom four are official, nominated by the Government, and four representatives elected by the ratepayers. In the absence of any election, by failure of the voters to nominate, the Governor has power to name four members to represent the ratepayers. The unofficial members of the Town Councils have, with the exception of the Council at Cape Coast, all been elected, and both at Accra and Sekondi the elections were contested.

The following statement shows the revenue and expenditure of the Town Councils for the past five years:—

	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accra	4,617	5,339	5,151	5,075	5,589	4,164	5,751	4,852	4,819	4,647
Sekondi*	—	—	2,100	2,348	2,911	—	—	1,562	2,742	2,592
Cape Coast† ..	—	—	—	2,080	2,284	—	—	—	1,207	2,627

* Not established till 1905.

† Not established till 1906.

There is no municipal debt.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. In the year under review the value of the total trade of the Colony was £5,007,869, and exceeded by £952,518 that for the previous year; this result, satisfactory in itself, affords even greater cause of congratulation when it is borne in mind that the figures for 1906 were the highest on record and exceeded those of 1905 by upwards of £920,000, and that these large increases are the consequence of legitimate expansion and development of trade, and in no way due to adventitious circumstances.

The following table gives the values of imports (exclusive of expenses on specie), exports, and total trade for the past five years:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
1903	2,082,544	980,942	3,063,486
1904	2,001,857	1,340,026	3,341,883
1905	1,486,068	1,646,145	3,132,213
1906	2,058,939	1,996,412	4,055,351
1907	2,366,195	2,641,674	5,007,869

Imports.

2. As will be seen from the above table the value of imports in 1907 exceeded that for the previous year by £307,256.

	£
The value of imports paying specific duties was	413,158
The value of imports paying <i>ad valorem</i> duties was	1,118,246
The value of imports free of duty was	834,791
	£2,366,195

These values include freight, insurance, and other charges.

3. The following table shows the value in sterling of imports and their countries of origin for the past two years:—

Country of Origin.	1906.			1907.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom	1,590,460	18	5	1,758,315	5	9
British Colonies :—						
Southern Nigeria	55,241	3	9	120,474	11	1
Sierra Leone	13,859	10	3	990	7	1
Other British Colonies	17	2	6	50	1	2
	69,117	16	6	121,514	19	4
Foreign Countries :—						
Germany	207,818	10	0	233,234	16	10
France	10,729	17	10	11,540	16	4
United States	32,781	9	3	38,734	8	6
Holland	55,411	14	0	103,855	9	5
Africa (Foreign)	82,476	15	3	67,703	7	6
Other Foreign Countries... ..	10,142	3	2	31,295	17	6
	399,360	9	6	486,364	16	1
Value of Total Imports*	2,058,939	4	5	2,366,195	1	2

* Exclusive of expenses on specie.

4. The principal articles imported during the last two years, and the comparative quantities and value thereof, are shown in the following table:—

Articles.	1906.		1907.		In-crease.	De-crease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Ale and Porter galls.	47,247	£ 7,409	50,088	£ 7,824	£ 415	—
Apparel, Wearing	—	60,704	—	32,070	21,366	—
Beads	—	16,430	—	22,571	6,141	—
Beef and Pork brls.	3,554	9,646	4,045	11,381	1,735	—
Brass and Copperware	—	3,529	—	3,931	402	—
Bread and Biscuits cwts.	10,091	11,373	9,789	11,347	—	28
Building Materials	—	29,624	—	32,520	2,896	—
Carriages and Carts No.	444	18,069	325	2,566	—	15,503
Coal tons	23,216	41,240	24,649	36,881	—	4,359
Coopers' Stores pkgs.	11,182	14,566	16,788	26,133	11,577	—
Cordage cwts.	4,368	19,269	5,291	22,214	2,955	—
Cotton Yarn and Twist .. lbs.	392,895	21,770	464,224	27,230	5,460	—
Cotton Goods (excluding Yarn and Twist) ..	—	353,977	—	508,764	154,777	—
Earthenware	—	6,054	—	7,702	1,648	—
Flour brls.	21,924	30,324	21,156	28,500	—	1,824
Furniture	—	16,594	—	20,704	4,110	—
Gunpowder lbs.	212,837	4,128	309,401	5,853	1,825	—
Guns and Pistols No.	4,092	4,844	3,859	4,610	—	34
Hardware	—	43,901	—	54,113	10,212	—
Lumber sq. ft.	2,299,932	19,600	3,508,913	30,838	11,298	—
Machinery	—	188,925	—	161,798	—	27,127
Oil, Kerosine galls.	622,404	13,289	665,529	27,451	9,162	—
Perfumery	—	20,973	—	29,804	8,831	—
Provisions	—	84,780	—	83,120	3,330	—
Railway Plant and Rolling Stock ..	—	3,180	—	5,065	1,885	—
Rice cwts.	74,787	40,612	71,902	42,013	1,401	—
Salt	36,640	4,606	51,836	6,582	1,976	—
Silk Goods	—	27,594	—	50,670	23,076	—
Soap lbs.	3,937,991	23,987	3,457,393	25,164	1,177	—
Spirits, Gin and Geneva .. galls.	424,832	52,318	458,898	61,611	9,293	—
Spirits, Rum	702,855	57,000	723,468	56,335	—	665
Spirits, Other	22,422	13,849	25,888	15,554	1,705	—
Sugar cwts.	26,035	22,651	26,830	25,330	2,709	—
Tobacco, Manufactured .. lbs.	45,226	11,166	51,459	13,810	2,644	—
Tobacco, Unmanufactured ..	1,269,983	32,186	1,182,983	32,602	416	—
Wines galls.	50,707	11,980	44,866	14,083	2,123	—
Woolen Goods (including Yarn and Twist) ..	—	11,977	—	15,453	3,476	—
Specie	—	426,999	—	436,992	9,993	—
Other Articles	—	273,046	—	309,826	36,780	—
Total	—	*2,058,939	—	*2,366,195	356,794	49,538
			Total Decrease		49,538	
			Net Increase		307,256	

* Exclusive of expenses on Specie.

The chief items showing an increase are:—

	£
Cotton goods	154,777
Silk goods	23,076
Wearing apparel	21,366
Coopers' stores	11,577
Beads	6,141
Cotton yarn and twist	5,460
Furniture	4,110
Hardware	10,212
Specie	9,993
Lumber	11,298
Perfumery	8,831
Kerosine oil	9,162
Gin	9,293

Though the returns show an increase in the value of cotton goods, due to the importation of better and more expensive qualities, there is a growing demand in the hinterland for cheaper German cotton goods, especially those printed with the pattern on both sides by the double block system. There is reason to believe that the sale of materials of similar quality and price, as well as of certain classes of beads and brass rods, at present procurable only at Lome, would be welcomed at Coomassie.

The increase in the value of coopers' stores imported is attributable to large importation by shippers to be utilized in making barrels or cases for the export of rubber and other produce of the Colony.

Exports.

5. The total value of exports in 1907 was £2,641,674, an increase over the previous year of £645,262. The following table shows the quantities and values of the principal articles of export compared with those of 1906:—

	1906.		1907.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Cocoa lbs.	20,104,504	£ 336,289	20,956,400	£ 515,089	178,820	—
Cola Nuts pkgs.	4,703	73,632	6,278	78,901	5,269	—
Copra tons	827	4,290	388	6,186	1,896	—
Cotton, Raw lbs.	92,836	1,022	56,088	968	—	56
Gold and Gold Dust .. ozs.	217,288	} 859,842	292,125	} 1,164,676	305,834	—
Concentrates lbs.	1,644		265,245			
Guinea Grains "	46,769	517	87,074	1,127	610	—
Gum Copal "	194,162	2,216	398,363	5,134	2,918	—
Ivory "	2,607	615	1,575	373	—	242
Lumber sup. ft.	7,795,922	80,013	18,628,348	169,458	89,445	—
Palm Kernels tons	9,365	80,834	9,753	101,822	20,988	—
Palm Oil galls.	2,143,118	125,008	1,867,945	119,468	—	5,540
Rubber lbs.	3,649,663	334,505	3,549,548	333,120	—	1,385
Silver ozs.	—	—	351	43	43	—
Specie "	—	88,358	—	127,645	39,287	—
Other Articles "	—	10,291	—	17,666	7,375	—
Total	—	1,996,412	—	2,641,674	652,485	7,223
				Decrease	7,223	
				Net Increase.. ..	645,262	

6. Following the method adopted in previous reports the value of the exports of gold and specie will here be deducted from the total value of exports for the purpose of showing the

value of the principal agricultural and economic products. The comparative return below shows a marked increase chiefly due to good seasons in the agricultural districts:—

1906.	Amount.	1907.	Amount.
	£		£
Total Exports ...	1,996,412	Total Exports ...	2,641,674
Gold ... 858,842		Gold ... 1,164,676	
Specie ... 88,358		Specie ... 127,645	
	947,200		1,292,321
Total other Exports...	£1,049,212	Total other Exports...	£1,349,353

7. The increase in the exportation of cocoa is satisfactory, and this increase may be accounted for partly by good seasons, and partly by extended and improved cultivation.

The large increase in the value of timber exported is attributable to various causes. Prices were better, railway facilities at Sekondi have been improved, and the frequent flooding of the Ancobra River during the year enabled timber which had for some time past been accumulating in dry creeks to be floated down to the coast.

The value of gum copal exported was more than double the value of exports in 1906, due to the better prices obtaining and the greater attention paid by merchants and natives to this produce.

There were decreases in the value of palm oil—£5,540— and rubber—£1,385; partly due to the falling off of prices in the European markets and partly to the greater attention being paid to cocoa.

The export of cotton also decreased from 92,886 lbs., with a value of £1,022, to 56,088 lbs., with a value of £966. This is not due to any abandonment of cultivation, but to the fact that exportation by way of the Volta River of cotton grown in Togoland ceased with the completion of the Lome-Palime Railway.

The principal ports in the Colony are—

—	Value of Imports, 1907.	Value of Exports, 1907.	Total Trade.
	£	£	£
Sekondi	930,810	1,517,238	2,448,048
Accra	549,689	417,801	967,490
Ada	192,536	226,450	418,986
Axim	208,546	130,705	339,251
Cape Coast	162,400	98,360	260,760

Sekondi owes its position as the most important port to the fact that it is the terminus of the Sekondi-Kumasi Railway, which connects the coast both with the mining districts and with Ashanti. Accra, the second in importance, is the headquarters of Government and the principal port of shipment for cocoa.

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

1. The sum total of the year's mining output, which is the highest on record, is 273,898 ozs. of fine gold, estimated to be worth £1,163,517. This is about four times the value of the output in 1903, and shows an increase of £271,226 over that of 1906.

2. To this total, Prestea Block A, Limited, a quartz concession, situated about 20 miles from Tarkwa, is the principal contributor with 46,869 ozs., of the value of £199,101, crushed from 78,164 tons of ore, very nearly five times the amount of the value of the year's result in 1906. This is due to continuous running of a 50-stamp battery started in September, 1906. A branch line of railway from Tarkwa to this property is now in course of construction.

3. Next comes the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Limited, also a quartz property, situated at Obuasi in Ashanti. This Company won 45,599 ozs., of the value of £193,705, an increase of £37,036 over the previous year. The extraction was greatly improved by roasting the ore before treatment. In the mill 53,158 tons were crushed, and the sands cyanided, with a recovery of 30,052 ozs., while 10,533 tons were treated by roasting and direct cyanide with the result that 15,190 ozs. were obtained. This Company paid two dividends of 10 per cent. during the year.

4. Abbontiakoon Block 1, Limited, who hold a conglomerate property adjoining the Tarkwa concession, showed 72,201 tons crushed for 28,864 ozs., of the value of £122,618, a decrease since 1906 of £11,013. This Company converted their dry crushing plant, the results of which were not satisfactory, into a wet crushing plant during the year.

5. Abosso Gold Mining Company, Limited, whose conglomerate property is situated at Abosso, the next railway station beyond Tarkwa, treated by means of a 30-stamp battery and cyanide works 39,435 tons of ore and 11,055 tons of old tailings, with a recovery of 27,607 ozs., of an estimated value of £117,275, a decrease of £19,501. This Company paid a dividend of 10 per cent. during the year.

6. The Wassaw (Gold Coast) Mining Company, Limited, the only other Company to win over £100,000, holds a concession at Adja Bippo, the next station beyond Abosso, where during the year a 30-stamp battery and cyanide plant have been at work with the result that, from 50,210 tons of reef sent to the mill, 25,331 ozs. were obtained, of the value of £107,607, an increase of £66,018.

7. Of the other mines, the most interesting is perhaps that of the Taquah and Abosso Gold Mining Company (1900), Limited, at Tarkwa. The title to this property dates back nearly thirty years, when it was acquired by a M. Bonnat, a Frenchman, who was the first to discover the richness of the Tarkwa Main Reef. Near the old workings a 50-stamp battery of 1,280 lbs. stamp started crushing in August last, but for various reasons a full month's results have not yet been obtained. The plant is worked by a suction gas producer, which effects a considerable economy in fuel. The total of the year's operations shows 21,843 tons crushed for 17,257 ozs., of the value of £73,309, an extraction of 15·8 dwt. per ton.

8. On the quartz property of the Broomassie Mines, Limited, situated near Prestea, 17,981 ozs. were got from 15,618 tons treated, giving a value of £76,386, an increase of £19,795.

9. Akrokerri (Ashanti) Mines, Limited, who hold a property on the railway, show a decrease on the year's working of £37,082, and Bibiani Goldfields, Limited, whose mine is situated in the outlying district of Sefwhi, a decrease of £25,815. On the other hand the Attasi Mines (1905) and Railway, Limited, whose concession is in Denkera show an increase of £18,732, and the Sansu Mines, Limited, who are situated within the area of 100 square miles, leased by the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Limited, an increase of £15,589. All these four properties are quartz concessions.

10. The dredging Companies working in the Ankobra River, which was fuller than usual, were not so successful as in 1906, but the two Companies on the Offin River were more fortunate. The Offin River Gold Estates, Limited, which had only two dredgers at work, showed the best results, with 508,100 cubic yards treated for 5,472 ozs., whilst the Ashanti Goldfields Auxiliary, Limited, with four dredgers, treated 959,157 cubic yards, with a recovery of 4,326 ozs.

11. The experiment of introducing labour for the mines from the Northern Territories has proved successful, and 280 were employed in the Tarkwa District. The average number of persons employed altogether in the mining industry was about 15,300, of whom some 540 were Europeans.

12. The general health of the mining community was good, and there has been a welcome absence of accidents on a large scale, though one European and 41 natives met with accidental death from various causes.

13. Nineteen certificates of validity were granted by the Supreme Court of the Gold Coast Colony, of which four were granted to concession holders for timber rights over their mining properties; whilst sixteen, of which a very large percentage was for dredging concessions, were issued by the Court of the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti.

14. No royalties were paid during the year under review in respect of the mining operations in the Colony during 1906,

but Ashanti receipts show a sum of £18,054 under this head. The profits for 1907 have not yet been assessed.

Manufactures.

The manufactures of the Colony are meagre and of small importance, and there seems no prospect of any change in the immediate future. The list of factories only comprises a cement, brick, and tile factory at Sekondi, and an aerated water factory at Cape Coast. The natives still make several things for their own requirements, such as cloths, baskets, pots, fishing nets, canoes, &c., but the economic value of these industries, which are the result of individual and not co-operative effort, is small, and the workmanship, as a general rule, crude.

Fisheries.

The fisheries of the Coast employ a number of natives and over 5,000 canoes, but no means exist of ascertaining the quantity or value of the takes. Many excellent fish are caught, and form one of the principal articles of food in the Coast towns; there is also a considerable industry in dried fish, large quantities of which are taken into the interior and bartered for country products. No fishing ever takes place on a Tuesday, however favourable the climatic conditions, the day being sacred to the fetish of the sea, and devoted to the overhauling and repairing of nets.

(C.) AGRICULTURE.

General Observations.

Owing to delay in the submission of the departmental report, which has not yet come to hand, the material available for a report on the year's progress in agriculture is not as complete as could be wished. Speaking generally, the most important events of a year full of interest, and marked by increased attention to this all-important subject, were the industrial progress of Ashanti, the holding of a successful exhibition at Sekondi, and the appointment of a commission to inquire into matters connected with the collection and preparation of rubber. Attention was paid to practical instruction by the European Officers of the agricultural department, and a scheme formulated for the appointment of trained native instructors, whose duties are to travel through the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories to teach the native producer more scientific methods of cultivation and preparation.

Cocoa.

During the year under review the increased demand for cocoa in the home markets led to an abnormal advance in local

prices, and gave an undoubted impetus to the industry. It is, however, difficult to make the native realise that the price paid for his products is governed by laws of supply and demand, which are outside his control, and even more difficult to convince him that the quality of the product is also an important factor in determining its value.

It is impossible to form an accurate estimate of the quantity of land under the cultivation of this product, but it must extend over hundreds of square miles. This important industry began in a humble way about the year 1879, when a native trader brought some seed from Fernando Po and made a small plantation in Akwapim, which is now the main centre of the industry. At that time the attention of the native cultivator was directed to coffee, and it was not until the failure of that crop in 1898 that cocoa came into prominence. Its cultivation has been steadily fostered by Government, both by distribution of seed and by instruction in the methods of planting and preparation, with the result that in the year under review it heads the list of economic exports, with a total value of over £500,000. From its cradle in Akwapim it has overrun the forest belt of the Eastern Province, and has made rapid strides in Western Akim and other parts of the Central Province, as is shown by the growing exports from Winneba and Saltpond. In the Western Province the mining industry has hitherto diverted attention from agriculture, but since the establishment of the botanical station at Tarkwa in 1903 cocoa has been introduced into the Western Province with some success.

Rubber.

The fall in price in the home markets and competition of the cocoa trade somewhat interfered with rubber exports during the year. The chief sources of the rubber supply are the rich forest belts of Northern Ashanti, Sefwhi, and Akim; Ashanti rubber mostly finds its way by rail to Sekondi, the other principal ports of exportation being Axim, Cape Coast, and Saltpond. Most of the rubber exported is that known as "Lump" rubber, which is the product of the forest tree called *Funtumia Elastica*, and with a view to improving the local methods of collection and preparation of this as well as of other kinds of rubber, a Commission of Inquiry was appointed in the latter part of the year to report on the various processes in use, and to consider whether legislation could usefully be introduced. Their report, which has recently been submitted, does not advocate any immediate legislative action, but emphasises the importance of the practical instruction, of which mention has already been made. Rubber plantation has also been encouraged, and there is a yearly distribution of the best Para seeds, which have been grown with considerable success not only in the various Botanical Stations, but on private properties in Akim and the Western Province.

Cotton.

The British Cotton Growing Association continued during the year a series of interesting experiments in hybridisation at the farm at Labolabo, where the ginnery is giving satisfaction. The manager and his assistants have endeavoured to promote the cultivation of cotton by visiting chiefs in the vicinity of the River Volta and by distributing seed. In the Northern Territories, cotton is grown for local requirements, and recent reports favour the impression that at no distant date this product will form an important export from the Protectorate, where conditions are somewhat similar to those obtaining in Northern Nigeria.

Miscellaneous Products.

Kola.—The quantity and value of this product, which grows chiefly in the forests of Akim, has steadily increased during the last five years, and in 1907 surpassed all previous records. The export trade is almost entirely in the hands of the Muhammadans, who ship the nuts to Lagos for conveyance to the upper reaches of the Niger. An interesting experiment in kola plantation is being conducted by an English Company at Boonso in Akim.

Oil Palm Products, which were formerly the principal economic articles of export from the Colony, have had to yield place to cocoa, where the return is greater in proportion to the labour expended. Kernels, however, show a slight increase over 1906, both in quantity and value exported, but palm oil has slightly fallen off.

Forestry.

The question of introducing forestry legislation and of establishing a forestry department was under consideration during the year, and with a view to meeting the expenses of a preliminary investigation and report by an experienced forestry officer, a vote was inserted in the Estimates for 1908. Arrangements were concluded with the Government of Southern Nigeria, whereby the services of Mr. H. N. Thompson, Conservator of Forests, were placed at the disposal of the Government of the Gold Coast for this purpose, and at the time of writing his tour of inspection has just been completed.

Botanical Stations.

In the absence of the departmental report, comparative statistics cannot be given, but, speaking generally, the efficiency of the stations at Aburi, Tarkwa, and Coomassie has been maintained, much valuable instruction has been given by the curators and their assistants, and large quantities of economic seeds and plants have been distributed from each station.

A new Botanical Station for the Central Province was opened at Asuanchi, about 15 miles from Cape Coast, where a large quantity of land was cleared during the year, and planted with various products, chiefly cocoa and rubber. Seeds and plants were also distributed, and the establishment of the station, which will be connected with the principal trade roads, is expected to give a stimulus to agricultural development in a portion of the Colony which has hitherto been somewhat neglected in this respect.

Exhibitions.

A very successful Agricultural Show was held at Sekondi on the 29th and 30th November, 1907, the special feature of which was the fine quality of exhibits in all classes coming from Ashanti. Foreign exhibits, native industries, and timber were displayed in large marquees 100 by 60 feet, while the other structures were of bamboo with palm roofs, each section, as far as possible, having a separate building. Interesting exhibits were sent from the French Colonies of the Ivory Coast and Dahomey, and others from Senegal and French Guinea unfortunately arrived too late. Captain Von Doering represented the Government of the neighbouring German Protectorate of Togoland, who, however, did not send any official exhibits. Southern Nigeria sent some fine specimens of figured mahogany, native mats, and basket work, and a potter's wheel, in charge of a European potter, which excited great interest. Of the economic products exhibited, those of the oil palm and kola nuts were the best, but cocoa, native cotton, and rubber were, with a few exceptions, disappointing.

The industry of the Ashantis will be rewarded by the holding of the next show in Coomassie, and as several chiefs from the Northern Territories will be invited down for the occasion, it is to be hoped that agriculture will also receive a stimulus in that Dependency.

(D.) LANDS.

1. The Crown possesses no waste lands in the Colony, but certain lands have been acquired by the Government from time to time, mostly under the provisions of the Public Lands Ordinance, 1876, which legalises compulsory acquisition for the service of the Colony on payment of reasonable compensation.

2. The bulk of land in the Colony belongs to the tribal "stools," and theoretically there is no land without an owner. The ascertainment of the exact boundaries of tribal lands is, however, often a matter of considerable difficulty, as towns and villages have sprung up with large tracts of intervening unoccupied land, sometimes dense forest, which is gradually

brought under cultivation from either end. Now that the value of land is appreciated, boundary disputes frequently come before the Supreme Court, and in certain parts of the Colony, especially in the mining district of Wassaw, the limits of the lands of adjoining tribal stools have been definitely prescribed.

3. The general principle laid down by judicial decisions is that all land within the recognised territory of a "stool" is the property of that stool. Thus, in the case of every headchief's division, where there are tribal and family stools in subordination to the headchief's stool, all lands within the recognised boundaries of the family or subordinate tribe are held to be attached to the family or tribal stool, but all other unoccupied lands are the property of the headchief's stool. An attempt was recently made in the courts to extend this principle so as to enable the headchief's stool to claim all cultivated land the original title to which, as is not uncommon in the case of lands under native tenure, is lost in obscurity; but, though no limit of prescription is laid down by native law the local Court of Appeal held that in the case of long occupation and when there has been cultivation of permanent crops, such as sugar cane and cocoa, as opposed to the usual shifting cultivation of yams, plantains, and similar food products, the presumption is that the occupation was with the consent of the headchief's stool.

4. Of recent years deeds have come into common use, especially in land transactions between natives and Europeans. Where these deeds relate to grants of rights of mining, felling timber, and collecting rubber and other products of the soil, they are called concessions, and their validity is inquired into by the Supreme Court, under the provisions of the Concessions Ordinance, 1900. The court inquires whether the grantors are the native owners of the land, whether the area falls within the prescribed limit of five square miles for a mining concession, and 20 square miles for other concessions, whether the prescribed term of 99 years is exceeded, whether the consideration is adequate, and whether the statutory rights reserved to the natives are included in the deed. A survey and demarcation of boundaries by the Mines Survey Department is ordered, and when this is completed a certificate of validity, giving the lessee an indefeasible title, subject to observance of his covenants, is issued by the court, in which are contained such modifications of the deed as the Court may impose to bring it within statutory requirements, and to render it a transaction fair and equitable to both parties. The rent from certified concessions is paid to the native grantors through the Government. Concessions granted solely for purposes of plantation of rubber and other products may be exempted from the operation of the Ordinance; whilst concessions to acquire mineral oil are held subject to the Government right of preemption of the oil under Ordinance No. 15 of 1907.

(E.) SHIPPING.

1. The following are comparative statements of the number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared at the ports of the Colony during the past five years:—

Sailing Vessels.

Year.	British.				Foreign.				Total.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903 ..	8	3,337	5	2,135	14	5,543	14	5,295	22	8,890	19	7,430
1904 ..	7	2,312	10	3,514	6	3,072	7	3,487	13	5,884	17	7,001
1905 ..	1	498	1	498	8	4,390	0	3,004	9	4,888	7	3,502
1906 ..	1	249	1	249	9	6,157	11	7,543	10	6,406	12	7,792
1907 ..	1	851	1	851	5	3,828	5	3,828	6	4,677	6	4,877

Steam Vessels.

Year.	British.				Foreign.				Total.			
	Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.		Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903 ..	321	581,164	315	577,120	244	421,015	243	417,768	565	1,002,179	560	994,888
1904 ..	327	595,871	326	593,567	250	431,124	241	417,164	577	1,026,995	567	1,010,731
1905 ..	355	669,912	352	663,271	241	413,195	234	404,794	596	1,083,107	566	1,068,065
1906 ..	365	713,218	357	696,416	214	359,809	212	358,254	579	1,072,827	569	1,066,670
1907 ..	390	752,862	385	741,392	240	416,172	239	413,661	630	1,169,034	624	1,155,053

*Mail and Steamship Services.**British Lines.*

Mail steamers of the African Steamship Company and the British and African Steam Navigation Company, Limited, both of which are under the management of Messrs. Elder, Dempster and Company, leave Liverpool every Saturday for Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, and Accra, the scheduled time of the voyage to Accra being 15 days.

2. The same lines provide three services of cargo boats from Liverpool, viz., the Brass and Benin Service, which leaves every alternate Wednesday and calls at Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, Accra, and Ada; the Opobo and New Calabar Service, which leaves on the other alternate Wednesdays, and calls at all the same ports except Ada; and the Windward Service, which leaves Liverpool every third Thursday, and calls at all Gold Coast ports. These boats take from 32 to 34 days to Accra. These lines also run these services from Hamburg and one from London, which leaves every third Saturday.

3. Homewards, the mail service leaves Accra every Wednesday, and is due to arrive in Plymouth in 16 days. The cargo services also touch on the homeward voyage at the outward ports of call.

4. The present rates of fares by these lines are £28 12s. first class and £20 7s. for all ports as far as Winneba, and £29 14s. and £21 9s. respectively for Accra and ports to the eastward.

5. A new line of steamers called the Sun Line, which was inaugurated towards the end of 1906, plies at intervals between Newport (Mon.) and Sekondi carrying passengers and cargo. Outwards, they usually bring coal and freight for the mining companies, and homewards the usual cargo is timber. This line is under the management of Messrs. G. T. Symons and Company.

Foreign Lines.

6. The Woermann Line runs a mail steamer monthly from Hamburg, which is scheduled to leave Dover on the 11th of every month with passengers and mails for Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, and Accra, the duration of the voyage being about 15 days. These boats also call homewards at the same ports, leaving Accra on the 13th of every month for Southampton. The passenger fares are the same as the Elder, Dempster steamers.

7. Cargo services of the Woermann Line leave Hamburg for the Gold Coast on the 1st, 3rd, 15th, and 30th of the month.

8. Steamers belonging to the Compagnie Belge Maritime du Congo are scheduled to leave Antwerp every third Thursday, calling the following day at Southampton for mails and passengers for Axim, Sekondi, Cape Coast, and Accra, at which last named port they are due to arrive 13 days after leaving Southampton. They do not, however, call on the Coast on the homeward voyage.

III.—LEGISLATION.

GOLD COAST COLONY.

1. During the year under review twenty-one Ordinances were passed by the Legislative Council, of which several were of considerable importance.

2. The Firearms, Ammunition, and Gunpowder (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907 (No. 3 of 1907), introduces a yearly system of licences for arms of precision, in the place of the quinquennial licence formerly required.

3. The Foreign Judgments Extension Ordinance, 1907 (No. 4 of 1907), provides for the enforcement in the Colony of the judgments of the Superior Courts of other British possessions, and *vice versa*. The operation of the Ordinance is, however, at present restricted to a reciprocal arrangement with the other West African Colonies and Protectorates.

4. The Railway (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907 (No. 5 of 1907), vests in the General Manager, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council, the power of making regulations and imposing rates heretofore exercised by the Legislative Council, thereby simplifying the administrative machinery of the Government Railway; but none of the existing rates can be raised, except with the consent of the Governor and Legislative Council.

5. The Wild Animals Preservation (Amendment) Ordinance, 1907 (No. 10 of 1907), enables the Governor in Council to make better provision for the protection of local fauna, by means of regulations for the imposition of export duties on hides, skins, horns, and tusks, and for the confiscation of ivory weighing less than 25 lbs.

6. By Ordinance No. 12 of 1907 flogging is abolished in the Gold Coast Regiment of the West African Frontier Force in time of peace, except for offences committed on the line of march against the persons or property of the inhabitants of the country.

7. The Criminal Evidence Ordinance, 1907 (No. 13 of 1907), enables an accused person to give evidence on his own behalf, and makes the husband or wife of such a person a competent witness for the defence, in the same manner and to the same extent as is the practice in England under the Imperial Act 61 and 62 Vic. c. 36.

8. The Mineral Oil Preemption Ordinance, 1907 (No. 15 of 1907), secures to His Majesty's Government the right of preemption of mineral oil discovered in the Colony and the right to control the supply in time of war.

9. Shot drill, crank, and other unremunerative forms of prison labour are removed from the ordinary system of hard labour by the Prisons (Amendment) Ordinance (No. 16 of 1907), and are retained solely for punitive purposes.

10. The Motor Traffic Ordinance, 1907 (No. 17 of 1907), regulates the use of motor vehicles, which are now commonly employed in the Eastern Province in connexion with the shipment of cocoa from Accra. The Ordinance provides for the licensing and identification of vehicles, and the examination and certification of drivers, and makes general provisions for the safety of the public and the prevention of injury to roads.

11. Ordinance No. 18 of 1907 prohibits the manufacture of firearms, ammunition, or gunpowder in the Colony without a licence, and penalises the conversion of flint-lock guns into

cap guns, a recent form of evasion of the Brussels Convention, which is due to the ingenuity of the local blacksmith.

12. The Proprietary Railways Ordinance, 1907 (No. 19 of 1907), regulates the construction and working of private railways, for the commencement of which a licence from the Governor is now required.

13. The Timber Protection Ordinance, 1907 (No. 20 of 1907), forbids the cutting of certain specified trees of economic value below a certain girth, without the written permission of a District Commissioner.

14. The Muhammadan Marriage Ordinance, 1907 (No. 21 of 1907), establishes a system of registration of marriages and divorces performed according to Muhammadan rites.

ASHANTI.

15. Of the five Ashanti Ordinances enacted during the year, No. 1 enables the holder of a concession in Ashanti to pay duty on his income-tax assessment in the United Kingdom, instead of having his profits assessed locally. This privilege is similar to that conferred on concession holders in the Gold Coast Colony in the previous year.

16. Ordinance No. 3 provides for the creation of four provinces in Ashanti, capable of sub-division into districts, and makes the necessary consequential amendments in the previous law; whilst Ordinance No. 4 defines the jurisdiction of Provincial and District Commissioners, and other officers with subordinate judicial powers.

17. Ordinance No. 5 regulates the introduction, storage, and disposal of firearms, ammunition, and gunpowder in Ashanti. The written permission of the Chief Commissioner is requisite in every case to legalise the introduction of any arms, ammunition, or powder by private individuals or firms. Most of the other provisions of the Ordinance are similar to those in force in the Gold Coast Colony, and, amongst others, the holder of an arm of precision is similarly required to take out a yearly licence, and the conversion of flint-lock into cap guns is prohibited.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

18. The sole enactment for the Northern Territories was an amendment of the Fugitive Criminals Surrender Ordinance, 1906, making extraditable bribery and any other crime from time to time added by Act of Parliament to the list in the First Schedule to the Extradition Act, 1870.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) PRIMARY.

1. There are seven Government Primary Schools in the Colony, and 141 Primary Schools on the assisted list, which are conducted by the various Missionary Societies and are eligible for Grants in Aid on condition that the school has assembled at least 300 times during the year with an average daily attendance of not less than 20 pupils.

2. The following comparative table shows that the number of Government and Assisted Primary Schools maintained in the Colony during 1907 exceeds by two the number maintained during 1906:—

Denomination.	1906.	1907.	Increase or Decrease.
Baptist Mission	1	—	—1
Basel Mission	58	61	+3
Wesleyan Mission	52	48	—4
Roman Catholic Mission	14	18	+4
Bremen Mission	11	10	—1
Government	7	7	No change.
Mohammedan	1	1	No change.
African M.E. Zionist	2	1	—1
Church of England S.P.G.	—	2	+2
Totals	146	148	+2

132 of the 141 schools on the list for inspection succeeded in earning grants in aid.

3. The following table shows the total number of pupils on the rolls of primary and secondary schools under the Board of Education, the average attendance and the amount of grants earned during the years 1906 and 1907:—

Year.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Grants earned.
1906... ..	14,657	10,621	£ s. d. 5,252 12 0
1907... ..	14,046	10,503	5,560 11 1
Increase or Decrease	— 611	— 118	+ 307 19 1

Though there has been a decrease in the total number of pupils on the roll, there has been a slight improvement in the percentage of the average attendance.

4. In addition to the schools on the assisted list there are in the Colony and Ashanti 218 primary schools belonging to the following denominations:—

Basel Mission	...	...	...	103
Wesleyan Mission	...	...	...	96
Roman Catholic	...	...	...	5
Bremen Mission	...	...	...	10
Baptist	...	...	...	1
Church of England	...	...	...	2
African M.E. Zionist	...	...	...	1

The number of pupils attending these schools in 1907 was 4,653, making, with the Government and Assisted Schools, a grand total of 18,699 pupils on the nominal rolls.

5. During the year there were two examinations of candidates for appointment to junior clerkships in the Government Service. In all 228 candidates presented themselves for examination and 113 gained certificates.

6. The total income of the Assisted Schools amounted to £10,929 18s. 3d., a decrease of nearly £300, as compared with the income for 1906. The amount is chiefly made up of the following items:—

	£	s.	d.
Government Grants	...	...	5,560 11 1
Voluntary Contributions and Grants	...	...	...
from the various Missions	...	...	4,530 7 11
School Fees	...	...	1,002 6 9

7. The average annual payment for pupils in the primary schools amounted to 2s. 3d.—the same as in 1906.

8. Reference was made in last year's report to the difficulty experienced by the Education Department on account of the lack of qualified teachers. It is hoped that this difficulty will be removed on the completion of the Training Institute for Teachers at Accra which is now in course of construction.

9. No endeavours are spared to teach the rising generation their privileges and duties as citizens of the British Empire, and, in conformity with the movement started by the League of the Empire, lectures, accompanied by magic lantern slides, are given in all districts of the Colony. On Victoria Day, the 24th May, celebrations were held by the majority of the schools in the Colony, lectures on the Empire and the late Queen were given by the head teachers, patriotic songs were sung, and the flag was saluted, whilst in many places the anniversary was commemorated by the planting of a tree.

(B.) SECONDARY.

10. There are only four schools in the Colony which profess to give a higher education than that obtainable at the Primary Schools, viz., the Accra "Grammar School," the Accra "Collegiate School," the "Mfantsipim School," Cape Coast,

and the Cape Coast Wesleyan "Collegiate Girls' School." The first named of these schools is the only one which has hitherto received any Government aid. The total nominal roll of the four schools is 352, with an average attendance of 292, the Accra Collegiate School, which was only opened in July, 1907, heading the list with a total of 210 on the roll, and an average attendance of 174.

(C.) INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

11. Twenty-eight teachers and students completed two courses of agricultural instruction and 20 were successful in obtaining certificates. In addition 15 attended a first course and will complete the training in 1908. The number of teachers and students undergoing this branch of training shows a very satisfactory increase over that of the previous years.

12. The Director of Education reports that these courses of agricultural instruction are now more successful than heretofore, and that the results are plainly visible in those school gardens to which teachers with agricultural certificates have been appointed. Unfortunately a fairly large proportion of the teachers who obtain these certificates are employed in schools in the coast towns where there is but little scope for their agricultural training to be put to any practical use.

13. At present certain schools are giving industrial instruction, some with considerable success. In addition to schools mentioned in previous reports as giving instruction in carpentry, printing, bookbinding, net weaving, &c., carpenter shops have been established in the Wesleyan Schools at Tarkwa, Aburi, Accra, and in the Roman Catholic School at Axim; and fairly good work is being done. The building of the Government technical and industrial school at Accra, referred to in last year's report, was commenced during the year under review.

14. At the latter end of the year 1907 a Committee was appointed to inquire into the desirability of adding some form of hand and eye training to the compulsory subjects, which have to be taught before a school can be placed on the assisted list. Their report, which was published during the present year and is now under the consideration of the local Board of Education, strongly advocates this change in the near future, and the Board have adopted the principle of the report, whilst reserving further discussion on the detailed amendments suggested.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

There is a well-equipped hospital, with three European and four native wards, in Accra, there being seven beds for Europeans and 25 for native patients. A European nursing sister is attached to this hospital, at which 448 cases of various kinds were treated during the year. There is also a Contagious Diseases Hospital at headquarters. At Cape Coast the hospital is a spacious building, situated on Connor's Hill, overlooking the sea. The accommodation for Europeans consists of three first class wards containing in all six beds, and two second class wards containing together seven beds; that for natives, of four wards, with a total number of 19 beds, in addition to two wards for contagious diseases. The number of cases treated was 121.

Sekondi Hospital, situated on a hill near the town, contains three classes of accommodation for Europeans. There are in all six European wards, including two for convalescents, with a total of 16 beds. For native patients four wards are provided, holding 22 beds. Nursing sisters are also attached to this hospital, where 485 cases were treated.

Smaller hospitals also exist at Elmina, Kwitta, Axim, and Ada, and dispensaries at certain other out-stations.

In Ashanti, there is at Coomassie a commodious native hospital with three wards, a main ward containing 36 beds, a female ward with 4 beds, and another small ward with 4 beds. 661 cases were treated in this hospital, where the existing accommodation is adequate only as far as male patients are concerned, and will shortly be increased by the addition of a larger female ward, an operating theatre, and a consulting room. There is also a European hospital of four wards, each with two beds to which a nursing sister was attached in the latter part of the year.

In the Northern Territories, accommodation for the treatment of sick natives is being gradually provided, and with the development of the country, further improvements will be effected as requirements are recognised.

(B.) LUNATIC ASYLUM.

There is only one lunatic asylum in the Colony, situated at Accra. During the year under review 29 male and 3 female inmates were admitted, as compared with 28 and 5 respectively in 1906, but the number of discharges, viz.: 14 males and 2 females, compares very favourably with the figures for 1906, when only 2 males and one female were discharged. The daily average of inmates was 64, of whom about three-fifths are classified as maniacal and dangerous.

2. The building occupied as an asylum in 1907 is now converted to other uses, and a new and more commodious structure has been erected on one of the best sites near Accra. This consists of two large airing yards, one for males, and the other for females, each of which is flanked by cells and dormitories, and contains a large open shed for shelter and recreation. There are also hospital accommodation, large tanks and the usual accessories, besides quarters for the staff, all of which have been built in concrete. The buildings generally are cool and well ventilated, and the dormitories, each of which contains separate latrine accommodation, are spacious and lofty. It will be interesting to note whether the improvement in the surroundings will produce any marked effect in the recovery of the patients.

(C.) POOR-HOUSES ; AND (D.) REFORMATORIES.

As has been stated in previous reports, pauperism in the strict sense of the word is, thanks to the obligations entailed by the family system, unknown in the Colony. There are no poor-houses nor reformatories.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

The savings bank is now under the control of the Postmaster-General, and it is satisfactory to note that there is a steady annual increase.

2. During 1907 the total deposits amounted to £12,787, as compared with £8,961 in 1906. The total amount withdrawn was £10,618. On the 31st of December, 1907, the total amount at credit of depositors was £15,169.

3. The total number of accounts open at the 31st December was 1,279, as against 890 at the commencement of the year.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

(1). *Establishment.*

The police of the Colony comprise general police, escort police, mines police, and railway police, and their total strength, all ranks, on the 31st of December was 636, or 37 below the authorised establishment. On the corresponding date in the previous year the deficiency was 27. The authorised strength of the escort police was increased at the beginning of the year by 30 men of various ranks.

(2). *Recruiting.*

During the year 213 men were engaged and trained at Accra; nearly all these men are natives of the Colony or its dependencies. These figures show an increase of 29 on the previous year. The Commissioner of Police again reports that it is still difficult to persuade the better class of natives to join the force.

(3). *Detective Branch.*

The strength of this branch, all ranks, on the 31st of December was 17. The results have again been extremely satisfactory. The Superintendents have continued to carefully train their subordinates, and the intelligence displayed by the detectives has been higher than in former years.

(4). *General Remarks.*

All the police have performed their duties fairly satisfactorily during the year, and in view of an increase of the European staff provided for in 1908, it is to be hoped that the improvement in the efficiency and education of the force will be even better maintained in future.

(B.) PRISONS.

1. The central common gaols of the Colony are situated in the old forts or castles at Accra, Cape Coast, and Elmina, and the new building at Sekondi has been finished and occupied. This is a concrete structure containing 120 solitary cells, 4 punishment cells, 4 condemned cells, and 2 European cells. A hospital with 12 beds is attached, besides accommodation for a European gaoler, matron, and staff of 13 warders, and the usual accessories. It was erected at a cost of £17,344, and is the first building of its kind in the Colony. It is used solely for the confinement of long-sentence prisoners. There are ten district common gaols in the Colony in which prisoners under sentence of six months or less are confined, at Axim, Tarkwa, Sekondi (Fort Orange), Saltpond, Winneba, Ada, Akuse, and Kwitta. In Ashanti, the prison at Coomassie has been greatly improved. The discipline and interior economy of all the gaols continues to show great improvement. The number of prisoners committed during the year was 5,055, being an increase of 209 over 1906.

2. The amount realized from the sale of goods manufactured in the prisons was £2,080 10s. 4d. as against £1,567 19s. 1d. in the previous year—the gross estimated value of prison labour being £6,856 5s. as against £7,688. The principal prison industries consist of carpentry, boot and shoemaking, masonry, tailoring, coopering, basket and matmaking; the quality of the work has been generally good and in Accra reached quite a high standard.

3. The total expenditure of the Department was £11,703 3s. as against £12,007 11s. 7d. in the previous year, a decrease of £304 8s. 7d., and this notwithstanding the fact that the daily average of prisoners was 791 as compared with 763 in 1906.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The returns of crime in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories show that 8,310, 2,047, and 402 cases respectively were dealt with as against 7,848, 2,155, and 325 respectively, an increase of 431 over the cases in the year 1906. The number of convictions obtained was 6,325, 1,771, and 387 respectively.

There has been practically no increase of crime of a serious nature. The increase has been principally of petty offences which have occurred generally in all the districts throughout the Colony, except those of the Volta River and Akwapim. In Ashanti and the Northern Territories the figures show a general decrease as compared with the preceding year, which points to an increasing respect for law and order, though in the mining districts of Ashanti, which naturally attract many undesirable characters, mostly from outside the Colony and its dependencies, there has been a rather larger number of criminal cases than in 1906.

In the Colony, where serious offences are tried by a judge with a jury or assessors, the number of convictions and acquittals in the Superior Courts in 1906 and 1907 was as follows:—

	1906.	1907.
Convictions for offences against the person	30	45
Convictions for offences against property (other than prædial larceny)	18	28
Convictions for other offences	69	41
Acquittals	47	77

In the inferior Courts, where the trial is summary, the comparative figures are:—

	1906.	1907.
Convictions for offences against the person	680	743
Convictions for slave dealing	19	16
Convictions for offences against property (other than prædial larceny)	841	975
Convictions for other offences	4,096	4,477
Acquittals	2,135	1,980

In Ashanti, where all trial is summary, the following are the returns:—

In the Superior Courts.

	1906.	1907.
Convictions for offences against the person	16	20
Convictions for offences against property (other than prædial larceny)	30	13
Convictions for other offences	32	8
Acquittals	48	10

In the Inferior Courts.

	1906.	1907.
Convictions for offences against the person	268	315
Convictions for slave dealing	3	1
Convictions for offences against property (other than prædial larceny)	264	226
Convictions for other offences	1,225	1,188
Acquittals	152	316

In the Northern Territories trial is also summary, and the figures are as follows:—

In the Superior Courts.

	1906.	1907.
Convictions for offences against the person	8	9
Convictions for slave dealing	—	4
Convictions for offences against property (other than prædial larceny)	23	29
Convictions for other offences	30	52
Acquittals	9	5

In the Inferior Courts.

Convictions for offences against the person	118	86
Convictions for slave dealing	27	6
Convictions for offences against property (other than prædial larceny)	66	69
Convictions for other offences	41	132
Acquittals	9	5

In taking the figures for Ashanti and the Northern Territories into consideration, it must be borne in mind that the increase of the administrative staff has greatly improved the facilities for bringing offenders to justice.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

There is no compulsory registration of births and deaths in the Colony and its dependencies, and the census return in 1901, which estimated the total population of the Gold Coast Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories at 1,696,695 (about 1,400 Europeans), is probably at least a million under the mark. The collection of statistics of this nature is viewed with great suspicion by the uneducated native population, and the information given is as a rule wholly unreliable.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. The health of Europeans shows a general improvement, and it is satisfactory to note that out of 370 officials there were only three deaths, two from blackwater fever, and one unconnected with climatic causes. The rate of sickness is, however, still high, especially towards the end of the rainy season, when mosquitoes are plentiful. Blackwater fever was, as usual, the most dangerous disease, having accounted in all for 9 deaths and 32 cases of invaliding, as against 6 deaths and 25 cases of invaliding caused by malaria.

2. The following tables show the statistics of mortality and invaliding of Europeans during 1906 and 1907:—

How employed.	Year.	No.	Deaths.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invaliding rate per 1,000.
Officials	{ 1907	370	3	20	8.10	54.05
	{ 1906	399	6	39	15	97
Mercantile Firms ...	{ 1907	538	9	29	16.72	53.90
	{ 1906	255	4	16	15	62
Mining Companies	{ 1907	883	12	46	13.59	52.09
	{ 1906	992	18	53	18	53
Missions	{ 1907	86	1	—	11.62	—
	{ 1906	119	3	3	25	25
Totals	{ 1907	1,877	25	95	13.31	50.61
	{ 1906	1,765	31	111	17	62

3. The comparative salubrity for Europeans of the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories in 1906 and 1907 was as follows:—

Locality.	Year.	No.	Deaths.	Invalided.	Death rate per 1,000.	Invaliding rate per 1,000.
Colony	{ 1907	1,595	22	82	13.79	51.41
	{ 1906	1,344	25	77	18	57
Ashanti	{ 1907	259	2	11	7.72	42.47
	{ 1906	383	6	29	15	75
Northern Territories	{ 1907	23	1	2	43.47	86.95
	{ 1906	38	—	5	—	131

The improvement in the invaliding rate of Ashanti and the Northern Territories is very marked, and it is worthy of note that no official died during the year in the former dependency.

4. It is difficult, for reasons given above, to obtain reliable information as to the health of the native population. No

epidemic visited the Colony or Ashanti, but the Northern Territories were visited by an outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis, which has formed the subject of special investigation. In Accra, where the population is estimated at 18,000, 928 burial permits were granted, and the total number of similar permits granted in the five towns where registrars of death are situated, viz:—Accra, Ada, Cape Coast, Elmina, Saltpond, and Sekondi, was 1,517 in 1907, as against 1,361 in 1906.

SANITATION.

1. The sanitation of the three principal towns in the Colony, Accra, Cape Coast, and Sekondi, is carried out by Town Councils, composed half of official, and half of unofficial members. These bodies are hampered by lack of funds from undertaking sanitary improvements on an extensive scale without Government assistance. In other places the sanitary work is under the supervision of the Medical Department, and an extended tour of inspection through the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories was made by Dr. W. H. Langley, C.M.G., the Principal Medical Officer, during the latter part of 1907 and the beginning of 1908. Native towns and villages in the Colony are not constructed, as a rule, on sanitary lines, and the outbreak of plague which has occurred during the present year in Accra has drawn forcible attention to the squalid and congested state of some of the native quarters of that town.

2. With a view to remedying this state of affairs, increased efforts are being made to teach the all-important subject of hygiene. A scheme has been formulated whereby school teachers can attend a systematic course of instruction given by medical officers, and failure to acquire the requisite standard of proficiency on this subject is to disqualify a teacher for the rest of his examination. It is hoped that the knowledge thus acquired will be disseminated not only to the pupils at the various schools, but to the elder generation.

3. At the same time energetic measures have been taken to locate the breeding places of mosquitoes in the principal towns, and, by filling up of holes, and treatment of puddles with kerosine, to destroy the larvæ. Every endeavour is also made to impress on the minds of the natives the part played by the insect in the transmission of malarial fever, and to induce them to free their surroundings from all broken pots and similar articles capable of collecting rain-water.

CLIMATE.

The average solar maximum readings varied from 161 degrees, recorded in Gambaga in the Northern Territories in April, to 126 in Axim in June, and the average minimum on

grass from 75 degrees in Sekondi in March to 54 in Axim in December. The average shade maximum was highest, 97 degrees, in Gambaga in March, and lowest, 79, in Accra in August, and the average shade minimum highest, 79 degrees in Kwitta in March, and lowest, 63 degrees in Accra in January. The year's rainfall varied from 94 inches in Axim to 26 inches in Kwitta, but was generally satisfactory. The heaviest fall for a month was in Axim in June, where no less than 30·95 inches were recorded, followed by 23·13 inches in July.

A few slight shocks of earthquake were felt in Accra in the beginning of the year.

The appended table gives the results of the meteorological observations taken at the stations mentioned during the year:—

Station.	Temperature.						Rainfall.	
	Solar maximum.	Minimum on grass.	Shade maximum.	Shade minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in inches.	Degree of humidity.
Aburi	144·47	70·29	87·11	71·07	16·03	79·09	50·73	88·56
Accra	142·51	70·55	84·80	70·42	14·38	77·61	36·67	77·89
Axim	135·81	57·12	85·11	68·41	16·70	76·76	94·84	90·55
Cape Coast ...	140·38	71·81	86·54	73·36	13·19	79·96	38·01	87·19
Kwitta	139·31	71·55	87·85	74·95	12·90	81·40	26·46	79·51
Sekondi	138·53	72·77	86·14	71·71	14·43	78·50	45·89	59·36
Coomassie	140·55	69·13	87·58	70·00	17·57	78·79	63·32	88·00
(Ashanti)								
Gambaga	149·65	61·77	88·81	73·97	14·82	80·64	39·17	62·46
(Northern Territories).								

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

REVENUE.

1. The revenue of the department for the year amounted to £27,032 10s. 9d. as against £25,000 2s. 1d. for the previous year. The department also collected £6,876 4s. 10d. on behalf of the African Direct Telegraph Company and foreign administrations on account of telegrams despatched from the various offices in the Colony, and £3,456 16s. 7d. in respect of Customs duty on parcels.

Sale of Stamps.

2. The sale of stamps for 1906 and 1907, respectively, amounted to:—

	1906.	1907.
(a) Postage stamps for Postal Revenue and Judicial purposes ...	19,675 3 6	20,876 2 7
(b) Postage Stamps for Telegraphic purposes	12,229 15 3	12,697 7 11

EXPENDITURE.

3. The expenditure amounted to £27,970 2s. 5d. as against £22,568 1s. 9d. in 1906. In 1907, however, £5,245 13s. 7d. was expended on the construction of new telegraph lines in the Northern Territories, whereas in 1906 the expenditure on this service was only £946 19s. 10d.

Correspondence.

4. The total number of ordinary letters, postcards, newspapers, and book packets which passed through the post in 1907 is estimated to have been 3,094,000 as compared with 2,970,000 in the previous year.

Registered and Insured Correspondence.

5. The number of registered and insured articles despatched was 162,933 and the number received 107,195, the figures for 1906 being respectively 158,363 and 105,000.

Parcel Post.

6. The total number of United Kingdom, German, and Inter-colonial parcels dealt with was 42,240—4,108 despatched and 38,132 received—the contents being of a declared value of over £39,000. The number dealt with in the previous year was 36,167.

Money Orders.

7. The total value of money orders issued was £47,257 11s. 6d. as compared with £27,371 5s. 6d., an increase of over 72 per cent., which is attributable to the reduction made in the rates of commission in January, 1907.

Postal Orders.

8. Notwithstanding the very large increase in money order transactions, the value of postal orders issued increased from £51,703 1s. 1d. to £63,787 10s. 6d. The number of postal orders issued increased from 74,851 to 95,677.

Telegraphs.

9. At the end of 1907, 46 offices were open to the public in the Colony, Ashanti, and the Northern Territories, with a total length of 1,280 miles; 151 miles more than the previous year.

10. The total number of telegrams dealt with was 254,190 as compared with 218,421 in 1906. 66,039 were official telegrams as against 60,637 in the previous year.

Telegraph Extension.

11. During the year the telegraph system was extended from Salaga to Tamale in the Northern Territories, a distance of about 74 miles, and from Bole to Wa, a distance of about 77 miles, at an expenditure of £5,133 13s. 11d.

New Offices.

12. Three new telegraph offices were opened during the year at Abosso, a mining town in the Colony, and at Tamale and Wa in the Northern Territories.

Telephones.

13. Local telephone services exist at Accra, Sekondi, Cape Coast, and Tarkwa, and are extensively used by the public, as is shown by the fact that out of 111 connections at the four exchanges, no less than 50 are those of unofficial subscribers.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

WEST AFRICAN FRONTIER FORCE.

1. The headquarters of the regiment and the battery are at Coomassie, in Ashanti. Detachments of infantry are stationed at Accra and Cape Coast in the Colony, at Kintampo and Sunyani in Ashanti, and at Gambaga in the Northern Territories.

2. The discipline, drill, and training of the regiment is satisfactory, and the musketry shows steady improvement.

3. The cost of the regiment in 1907 was £65,326 10s. 1d.

The total cost of the Volunteer Force in 1907 was £1,663 16s. 9d., as compared with £1,852 in the previous year.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

This force was created on the disbandment of the 2nd Battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force, at the end of December, 1906.

The establishment consists of 2 European officers and 319 native non-commissioned officers and constables, of whom 66 are mounted, and the actual strength on 31st December, 1907, was 2 officers and 311 non-commissioned officers and constables.

Detachments of the force are stationed at the following places in the Northern Territories:—

Tamale, Gambaga, Wa, Navarro, Bole, Lorha, Tumu, and Salaga.

The expenditure on the force during the year under review amounted to £9,163.

PREVENTIVE SERVICES.

1. The Eastern and Western Frontier Preventive Services, which are branches of the Customs Department, are stationed on the River Tano on the western frontier of the Colony, and on the River Volta on the eastern. Their duties are analogous to those of the coastguard in the United Kingdom.

2. The authorised establishment of both services is 364 and the cost of maintenance in 1907 was £14,494 0s. 10d.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

ASHANTI.

1. The year under review was a satisfactory one for this dependency. As compared with 1906, revenue increased from £32,328 to £36,794, and expenditure decreased from £85,125 to £82,302. Owing to the special military expenditure required, the actual revenue of Ashanti cannot be expected, for some years to come, to meet the actual expenditure, but indications are not wanting that increased trade and development of the agricultural resources of the country will steadily reduce the deficit from year to year.

2. A rearrangement of boundaries with the Northern Territories on the north, and the Gold Coast Colony on the south, came into force on the first of January, 1907, on the publication of two Orders of His Majesty in Council bearing date the 22nd of October, 1906. The territory was subsequently divided into four administrative provinces, and the staff of Commissioners was increased, with the result that the European officers were enabled to travel more into outlying districts, and were thus brought into touch with a large body of natives to whom their rulers were previously unknown. Owing to this, a large number of land disputes between chiefs of sub-districts were adjusted and there is an increasing respect for the administration.

3. Trade increased by fifty per cent. over the previous year, and Coomassie is rapidly becoming an important trade centre. Attention has already been drawn to the encouraging interest taken by the Ashantis in agriculture. Political relations with the chiefs were good, and there was a comparative absence of serious crime. Educational results show a slight increase in the number of pupils during the year, and the Roman Catholic Mission is now a factor in the educational movements, in addition to the older establishments of the Wesleyan and Basel Missions.

4. The improvement of Coomassie, the headquarters of the Ashanti administration, continues year by year, and the insanitary squalor of a native town has given way to a large, well-planned, well-drained settlement, with several handsome buildings. In addition to other public works during the year under review, a new and more commodious Post Office was opened, in the turret of which a large four-dial clock was erected as a memorial to the late Sir Donald Stewart, K.C.M.G. Moreover, the foundation stone of a three-storied building for the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, was laid by the Chief Commissioner on His Majesty's birthday, and during the year a thirteen-hole grass golf course was laid out for the benefit of the European population.

5. For further detailed information as to Ashanti, reference should be made to the annual report of the Chief Commissioner of Ashanti.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES.

1. In this dependency, which is not an integral part of His Majesty's dominions like the Gold Coast Colony and Ashanti, but is composed of protected territories, satisfactory progress has been made during the year under review in pacifying the wild tribes and increasing their confidence in the Administration.

2. Financially, the Protectorate is as yet unable to pay its way, but, considering the low intelligence of the vast majority of the inhabitants, the ravages inflicted a few years back by the great chiefs Samory and Barbatu, the poorness of the soil, as compared with the economic wealth of the forest belt, and the deficiency of water in many parts, this is hardly to be wondered at. It is satisfactory, however, to note that the revenue, which amounted to £18,089 as compared with £14,103 in 1906, shows an increase of 25 per cent, due to trade expansion consequent on the greater security of travellers, and that there is a growing demand for staple articles of commerce.

3. A notable change in the system of government was effected at the commencement of the year, the former semi-military regime giving way to a purely civil administration. The second battalion of the Gold Coast Regiment, which had hitherto been stationed in the Protectorate, was disbanded, and replaced by a considerably reduced force of constabulary, which has proved adequate to maintain peace and order. Three

administrative divisions were formed, at first called districts, but now termed provinces, and a Commissioner was placed at the headquarters of each, with European subordinates in the sub-divisions. As might be expected, these changes caused an increase in the year's expenditure, which amounted to £24,304, against £13,603 in 1906, but of the ultimate benefit to the country there can be no doubt.

4. The headquarters of the administration were transferred during the year from Gambaga, which lies too far north to form a convenient centre for government, to the more central town of Tamale, which is described as situated in open, park-like country, on a ridge commanding extensive views, and near to an excellent water supply. It bears a reputation among the natives as being extremely healthy for men, cattle, and horses, and as it is situated in a very populous district, and contains excellent sites for European residences, it is to be hoped that when the transport difficulties are overcome by the completion of the trunk road from Coomassie, now in course of construction, the town will become an important trade centre.

5. Excellent relations were maintained between the officials of the Protectorate and those of the contiguous foreign possessions; constant interchanges of visits took place at stations on the Anglo-French frontier, and, by special invitation, several British officers spent the 14th July at Wagadugu, the French headquarters.

6. Further detailed information as to the Protectorate will be found in the Annual Report of the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Territories.

RAILWAYS.

Capital Account.

1. The total capital expenditure upon the Sekondi-Kumasi Railway to the 31st December, 1907, was £1,846,818 14s. 5d. Of this sum £1,776,450 2s. 1d. represents the cost of original construction, and the balance of £70,368 12s. 4d. has been expended on permanent improvements, and additional plant, machinery, and rolling-stock.

Loans of £1,035,000 and £63,000 towards the construction of this railway have been raised at 3 per cent. and their extinction is provided for by a sinking fund of 1 per cent., chargeable to the general revenue of the Colony, to the credit of which £30,722 stood on the 31st December, 1907.

A further loan of £867,000 for the construction and equipment of the line has recently been authorised by Ordinance No. 4, of 1908.

REVENUE.

2. The total revenue for 1907 was £166,256, being £4,975 less than that earned in the previous year, and £3,743 less than the amount estimated for. Upon goods traffic alone there was a falling off of £11,658, due mainly to tariff reduction on mining materials and spirits introduced, the former in

October, 1906, and the latter in May, 1907. As a partial set-off against this decrease, there was an increase of £3,858 in coaching earnings, and £2,824 in sundry earnings, added to which additional revenue of £5,000 was realized from mahogany traffic.

The total receipts per mile open were £990 and per train mile £1 3s. 3d.

The net revenue (total revenue less recurrent expenditure) earned during the year under review was £89,480, which is equal to 5·03 per cent. on the cost of construction and 4·84 per cent. on the total expenditure charged to capital account, a satisfactory condition of things.

EXPENDITURE.

3. The total recurrent expenditure was £76,776, as against an estimated expenditure of £83,000, and an expenditure in 1906 of £77,257. The large saving of £6,524 on the estimated expenditure was the result of improvements effected in the organisation of the various branches of the Railway Department.

The recurrent expenditure works out at 46·18 per cent. of revenue, and the total expenditure, including £15,496 chargeable to capital account, at 55·50 per cent. of the revenue earned.

4. The general financial position of the railway and the working results to the 31st December, 1907, are given below:—

Total capital expenditure ...	£1,846,818	0s.	0d.
Total revenue earned in 1907	166,257	0	0
Total working expenditure in 1907	76,776	0	0
Extraordinary expenditure chargeable to capital account	15,496	0	0
Proportion of working expenditure to revenue... ..	46·18	per cent.	
Proportion of total expenditure (working and extraordinary) to revenue	55·50	,,	
Net revenue earned	£89,480	0s.	0d.
Interest earned upon capital expenditure	4·84	per cent.	
Revenue per mile, open	£990	0s.	0d.
Expenditure per mile, open	457	0	0
Earnings per train mile	1	3	3
Expenditure per train mile	10	9	
Net earnings per mile open	533	0	0
Net earnings per train mile	12	6	
Number of miles, open	168		
Number of passengers carried	109,680		
Gross tonnage of goods and minerals	55,756		

ACCIDENTS.

5. The total number of accidents of all kinds during the year under review was 319 as against 209 in 1906, the large increase being mainly due to the great number of trees (195) which fell across the line, thereby damaging the telegraph lines and permanent way. There were 20 engine failures, for the most part of a very ordinary character, and involving no serious consequences. There were 59 derailments, the majority of which occurred within station limits, principally in the Sekondi yard, which has been undergoing extensive alterations. There were three fatal accidents, two occurring to men in railway employment, the third being the case of a native apparently asleep on the track. In every case the verdict acquitted the railway department of negligence.

RATES.

6. As a result of the numerous and substantial reductions of rates in 1906 there were comparatively few changes of importance during 1907. The following list, however, shows that some further reductions have been made:—

Spirits of all descriptions	From 3s. 9d. per ton per mile to 2s. 6d.
Native corn (for export) from Kumasi to Sekondi.	Special rate of 10s. per ton.
Kola traders—Kumasi to Sekondi.	Free 3rd class traders' ticket issued in respect of consignments of 1 ton and over.
Cattle traders	Free 3rd class ticket to owner or attendant for each vehicle load.
Third class passengers ...	Issue of 500 mile coupon books at reduction of 25 per cent.

7. Comparative statement of revenue and expenditure (re-current) for the years 1906 and 1907.

	1906.	1907.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross receipts	171,232 0 0	166,256 0 0
" " per open mile	1,019 5 0	990 0 0
" " per train mile	1 4 10	1 3 3
Working expenses	77,259 0 0	76,776 0 0
" " per open mile	460 0 0	457 0 0
" " per train mile	0 11 2	0 10 9
Net revenue	93,975 0 0	89,480 0 0
" " per open mile... ..	599 0 0	533 0 0
" " per train mile... ..	0 13 8	0 12 6
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Percentage of expenditure to revenue ...	45.12	46.18
Percentage of net revenue to capital expenditure.	5.14	4.84

ROADS.

1. By the system in force, the construction and maintenance in the Gold Coast Colony of roads for vehicular traffic and cart-rolling devolves for the most part on the Public Works Department. The total length thus maintained is about 200 miles, and the roads are in a fair condition.

2. The principal of these roads are:—

- (a) The road from Accra to Dodowa, on which the traffic is very heavy in the cocoa season. The length of this road is about 27 miles, and it is suitable for motor traffic; for vehicles with a gross weight not exceeding six tons. Four motor lorries are in frequent use on this road, and this number is expected to be shortly increased.
- (b) The road from Accra to Aburi, about 25 miles in length, is identical with the Dodowa road for the first 13 miles. It is used by motor lorries as far as Ayimensa, at the foot of the range of the Akwapim hills.
- (c) The road from Winneba to Swaidru, which is about 14 miles long, is also of importance in connection with the increased cultivation of cocoa in this part of the Colony. This road is now being made suitable for light motor lorries, and temporary wooden bridges are being replaced by iron structures.
- (d) The Saltpond-Insua road, which is about 60 miles in length, has been reconstructed as far as Essikuma—about half way—and improved for the remainder of the distance. This is an important trade route, and is being made suitable for light motor lorries as far as Essikuma.
- (e) The road from Cape Coast to Prahsu, which is the old trade and military road to Coomassie and the north, is maintained by the Public Works Department as far as Dunkwa, about 30 miles. For the remainder of the distance to Prahsu the bridges are kept in repair by the Department and the surface by the native chiefs.

3. In addition to the roads constructed and maintained by the Public Works Department, some 1,800 miles of native paths and tracks are kept clear by the chiefs, under the provisions of the Roads Ordinance, 1894, in return for a quarterly payment per mile, which varies from 5s. to £1, according to the nature of the road and the state of repair, but averages about ten shillings.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

1. No exact statistics are available with regard to the extent of immigration to the Gold Coast. It is estimated,

however, that some 3,500 labourers enter the Colony yearly for employment in the mines, or as carriers, labourers for public and private works, or scavengers.

2. The immigrants come chiefly from the Kru Coast (Liberia), Sierra Leone, and Lagos.

3. Imported labourers are usually engaged in gangs for six or twelve months under the "Master and Servant Ordinance, 1893," under a contract duly executed before a District Commissioner, which provides for the rate of pay and other conditions of service, and for repatriation at the expiration of the period of service.

4. There is little or no emigration in the strict sense of the word, but a considerable number of the natives of the Colony obtain temporary employment further down the coast as carpenters, coopers, blacksmiths, washermen, and domestic servants, and in clerical positions, official and mercantile.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The programme of public works extraordinary during the year under review was comparatively modest.

In addition, however, to sundry minor works, progress was made in the following more important works:—

At Sekondi.

The erection of a court house and judge's quarters to enable a divisional court to be established at Sekondi, was commenced.

By the reclamation of No. 1 Lagoon, the most objectionable portion of which was filled with gravel, and by the construction of a concrete drain to carry off the water from Essicadoes stream, the sanitation of the town is greatly improved.

The new prison was completed, and is now in use for long-sentence prisoners.

At Accra.

The new lunatic asylum, situated on an excellent site about two miles from the town, was practically completed by the end of the year, and is now occupied.

At Kwitta.

A court house and district commissioner's office were built of cement and sand bricks, to replace the inadequate accommodation in the Fort.

WATERWORKS.

During the year Mr. Walter Hunter, a member of the firm of Messrs. Middleton, Hunter, and Duff, the consulting engineers, paid a visit to the Colony, accompanied by Mr. W. Baldwin, F.G.S., as geologist, and Mr. M. Mawson as assistant,

to advise on the projected water supplies for Accra and Sekondi. As a result of their investigations, the scheme of waterworks for Accra has been provisionally altered, and in lieu of damming up the Adjumota valley in the Akwapim hills, where the rainfall has considerably decreased of late, it is now proposed to utilise the Densu river, about eight miles distant from Accra, and borings are being carried out at the dam site selected. A further result of their visit is the provisional adoption of a scheme for Sekondi, which provides for a dam on the Anankwan river, and for pumping from an impounding reservoir to a service reservoir on an adjacent hill, whence the town will be supplied by gravitation.

HARBOUR WORKS.

Satisfactory progress was made with the Accra harbour works during 1907. The railway to the quarry, a distance of three miles, was completed, and a large quantity of stone was quarried and delivered on the works. Owing to the banking up of the sand it was found necessary to raise over 250 feet of the sea wall three feet higher than was intended. On the breakwater 200 feet of blockwork was built, and 107 bags and 28 blocks were laid in foundations. Nearly 90 feet of retaining wall for the roadway was constructed, when work had to be stopped until more protection was gained from the breakwater; 250 feet of the road itself was also filled in and metalled. The protection afforded by the breakwater, so far even as it has been constructed at present, already decreases the danger of landing and embarking in rough weather.

MINES SURVEYS.

During the year, in addition to the ordinary work of the department, certain lines in the north of Ashanti were surveyed to form a basis for the map which is being compiled.

The rearrangement of the districts of the Colony, with a view to bringing their boundaries into closer conformity with tribal boundaries, was completed.

The compilation of a wall map of the Colony for the use of schools was commenced.

Good progress was made with the production of the new map of the Colony and its dependencies on a scale of $\frac{1}{125,000}$ and the following sheets were produced in 1907, viz.:—Sekondi, Obuasi, Accra, Komfrodwa, Winneba, Niankano, Coomassie, Nsaba, Cape Coast, Kyebi, Praso, and Fumusu.

CHANGES IN THE ESTABLISHMENT.

There were no important changes in the substantive holders of office during the year under review. During the absence on leave in the latter part of the year of the Governor, Sir John

Rodger, K.C.M.G., the Government was administered by Major Herbert Bryan, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary.

TRANSPORT.

The Transport Department dealt with 16,437 loads during 1907, and the Transport Officer reports that none were lost.

The office at Cape Coast, where business has declined since the opening of the railway from Sekondi to Coomassie, was closed at the beginning of the year.

Few labourers are now supplied by this Department to the mines, but it continues to provide carriers for officers travelling in Ashanti, the Northern Territories, and the western portion of the Colony, and still attends to the transport of Government stores by rail and sea from Sekondi.

SUITABILITY OF CLIMATE FOR EUROPEANS, AND OPENINGS FOR WHITE LABOUR.

1. Europeans of temperate habits and sound constitution, who take suitable exercise, generally suffer little from climatic causes, provided that their residence in this portion of West Africa is not unduly prolonged.

2. As has been stated in previous reports, Europeans should on no account come to the Gold Coast for the purpose of seeking employment. Government subordinate officials and employees of the mercantile firms and mining companies are almost invariably engaged in England under agreement, and vacancies are rarely filled locally.

RATES OF WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

1. Generally the rates of wages are high, but the cost of living has tended to increase during recent years. This is specially the case in the Western Province, in which the principal gold-mines are situated. In the hinterland food is plentiful and cheap.

2. The wages of domestic servants vary from £1 to £2 10s. and of cooks from £2 to £4 per month. Servants of the coolie class can be obtained at a wage of £1 to £1 10s. Carriers earn 1s. a day and are given 3d. a day to buy food. Contract labourers and carriers are paid 25s. a month; these also receive 3d. a day subsistence money.

3. Native carpenters, cabinet-makers, masons, and smiths command ready employment and earn good wages at rates from 1s 6d. to 3s. a day.

REDIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICTS.

By an Order in Council which came into force on the 1st November, 1907, new administrative districts were created in the Colony, the boundaries whereof have been defined, as far

as possible, in conformity with the tribal boundaries of the native headchiefs.

The three provinces of the Colony, were, however, but little affected by the Order.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

During the early part of the year a certain number of local disputes occupied attention in the Colony, but the latter half was a time of quietness. Speaking generally, it may be said that the relations between the Government and the native chiefs are satisfactory, and that increased respect for the Administration is noticeable in Ashanti and the Northern Territories.

NATIVE JURISDICTION.

An interesting feature of the year under review was the second reading in the Legislative Council of a Bill having for its aim the amelioration of the present unsatisfactory state of native tribunals, which, owing to inability to enforce their decisions, to the want of proper records, and to other causes, have fallen somewhat into disrepute, and the establishment of these tribunals as an integral factor in the recognised judicial system of the Colony. It is sought to effect these objects by the appointment of a Government officer as native registrar of every headchief's court, whose duties will be to record the minutes of the proceedings and the decisions of the court, and to issue process. The limit of the civil and criminal jurisdiction of these courts is to be confined to small cases where the parties are natives, and machinery is to be provided, through the medium of the native registrar, for the proper enforcement of judgments. Native law is, subject to the provisions of the bill, to be administered, and while native procedure is to be adhered to, as far as practicable, in the form of trial, the suggested methods of execution of judgments is based on the Supreme Court practice. Criticism has been freely invited, both on the principles and details of the Bill, alike from native chiefs and others who will be affected by its provisions, and from judicial officers of the Colony, and the Bill itself has been referred to a select committee composed of the legal and native members of the Council. Whatever may be its ultimate fate, the introduction of the measure will afford lasting evidence of an honest and generous endeavour to deal satisfactorily with a question beset with many practical difficulties.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

Much interesting and valuable research work has been done by Dr. W. M. Graham, of the West African Medical Staff, who was detailed to investigate and make classified collections of the biting insects of Ashanti. He has been engaged especially

in making as complete a collection as possible of the ticks, flies, mosquitoes, and other diptera, defining the localities in which they are found, making microphotographs of perfect blood-sucking insects captured, identifying specimens, describing and drawing some of the agricultural pests which attack cocoa and other products, and studying the distribution of the tsetse fly in Ashanti; and his report is likely to prove of great scientific value.

Dr. A. E. Horn, of the West African Medical Staff, was detailed for special duty in connection with the study of the epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis in the Northern Territories, and this duty was carried out under many difficulties, not the least being the suspicious and unfriendly attitude of some of the wild tribes inhabiting those regions.

GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The general feature of the year under review was peaceful progress. With its revenue, its volume of trade, and its gold output, breaking all records of previous years, with its unmistakable evidence of a welcome interest in matters agricultural in Ashanti and the Colony, its improved health record for Europeans, and its freedom from serious disturbance, the year 1907 may fairly claim to be one of the most successful in the annals of the Colony.

A. WILLOUGHBY OSBORNE,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

3rd July, 1908.

APPENDIX.

ECONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS CONDUCTED AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE
DURING THE YEAR 1907 FOR THE GOLD COAST COLONY.

Reports from the Imperial Institute have been made to the Government of the Colony on the following subjects on the basis of investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, followed, when necessary, by technical trials by manufacturers and commercial experts. In many cases recommendations have been made as to the further action which is required in the Colony in order to develop the production of those materials for which it is probable that there would be a satisfactory commercial demand.

Rubber.—A series of samples of 21 samples of *Funtumia elastica* rubber prepared in "biscuit" form was forwarded from Ashanti. With two exceptions the specimens were of very promising quality and the valuations obtained showed that the rubber in this form will realise much higher prices than the ordinary native lump rubber.

Four other samples of *Funtumia* rubber, and one specimen of *Ficus Vogelii* rubber were also dealt with during the year. The *Funtumia* rubbers were prepared by different methods, including the use of an infusion of the leaves of *Bauhinia reticulata* for coagulating the latex. They were all of good quality, and very satisfactory valuations were obtained for them. The use of a hot infusion of the leaves of *Bauhinia reticulata* for coagulating *Funtumia latex* appears to give very good results, and entirely obviates the necessity of applying direct heat to the latex.

The *Ficus Vogelii* rubber contained 35.6 per cent. of resin, which is rather less than was found in the two previous specimens from the Colony. A small consignment of this rubber has been asked for so that technical trials can be made.

Kola nuts.—Specimens of several varieties of kola nuts from the Gold Coast have been examined and found to be of marketable quality.

Cotton.—Thirteen samples of unginned cotton, comprising American, native, and hybrid varieties, were received for examination. The cottons were of very good quality, certain samples being valued at 6½d. to 7½d. per lb., with "middling" American at 6.6d. per lb.

Fibres.—A specimen of *Triumfetta semitriloba* fibre was of excellent quality, and was valued at £35 per ton, with finest Bengal jute at £35 to £40 per ton.

Specimens of plantain and banana fibres were of good quality but rather weaker than Manila hemp; they were valued at £40 and £36 per ton respectively.

A sample of pine-apple fibre was also examined.

Oil seeds.—The seeds of *Carapa guineensis* have been examined and found to yield an oil which would be useful for soap-making. The oil would probably realise from £22 to £30 per ton.

Tanning materials.—Samples of mangrove barks were examined but did not contain sufficient tannin to be worth consideration for export, although they would probably be found of value locally for tanning or for the preparation of a tanning extract.

Cocoa.—During 1907 the Imperial Institute has again co-operated with the Government of the Gold Coast in the development of the cocoa industry in the Colony. In order to obtain trustworthy information regarding the market value of the better grades of Gold Coast cocoa two consignments of selected cocoa from a number of native planters were forwarded to this country for sale in consultation with the Imperial Institute, and unusually good prices ranging from 65s. to 69s. per cwt. were realised. Gold Coast cocoa has not previously attracted much attention from manufacturers in

this country, but as the result of the action recorded above an English firm has sent out a representative to the Colony.

Miscellaneous vegetable products.—A collection of miscellaneous vegetable products was received for examination. A very fine specimen of white maize was valued at 5s. 1d. per 100 lb., and a sample of red maize at 3s. 11d. per 100 lb. For cassava starch a price of 9s. per cwt. was quoted at Liverpool, and 20s. per cwt. was offered in London for a sample of dried chillies. A sample of guinea grains was described as of good quality and worth at the moment 47s. 6d. per cwt. This high price was, however, due to a scarcity of the product. There is usually a limited demand for guinea grains at about 40s. per cwt., or less.

Oil and Bitumen.—A sample of liquid bitumen from Bonyere was examined and found to be of some commercial importance. If obtainable in large quantities it could be used for the production, by distillation, of burning oil, lubricating oil, and asphalt.

A sample of bituminous sand from French territory was of less intrinsic value than the Bonyere bitumen, and was mainly of interest as perhaps indicating the occurrence of petroleum below the surface.

A number of new exhibits, including a model of a gold dredger, were received during the year and have been added to the West African Court in the public galleries, with full descriptive labels. A number of photographs, a map of the Colony, and a statistical table of information have also been added. A selection from the Gold Coast exhibits at the Imperial Institute was lent to the Colonial Products Exhibition held at Liverpool in 1907. A descriptive catalogue of the exhibits has been prepared for publication in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute."

Mr. G. C. Dudgeon, the Superintendent of Agriculture for West Africa, has been in constant communication with the Imperial Institute on all matters connected with agricultural operations and development, and has transmitted numerous specimens of economic products for examination at the Imperial Institute.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
537	British Central Africa Protectorate ...	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate ...	"
539	Leeward Islands ...	"
540	Straits Settlements ...	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands ...	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate ...	1906-1907
543	Bahamas ...	"
544	Barbados ...	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago ...	"
546	Grenada ...	"
547	Mauritius ...	1906
548	Fiji ...	"
549	Jamaica... ..	1906-1907
550	British Guiana ...	"
551	Northern Nigeria ...	"
552	British Honduras ...	1906
553	St. Lucia... ..	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria ...	1906
555	St. Vincent ...	1906-1907
556	Basutoland ...	"
557	East Africa Protectorate ...	"
558	Uganda Protectorate ...	"
559	Swaziland ...	"
560	St. Helena ...	1907
561	Ceylon ...	"
562	Falkland Islands ...	"
563	Gibraltar ...	"
564	Ashanti ...	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee ...	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	1907
567	Seychelles ...	"
568	Bermuda ...	"
569	Weihaiwei ...	"
570	Hong Kong ...	"
571	Malta ...	1907-1908
572	British Honduras ...	1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. ...	Do. (1905-6)
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department
50	British Colonies, &c. ...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria ...	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa ...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 566.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES
OF THE
GOLD COAST.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 530.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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1908.

[Cd. 3729-30.] *Price 2d.*

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APPENDIX.

CONSTABULARY 23

No. 566.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES
OF THE
GOLD COAST.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 530.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Accra,
28th April, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1907, and to make the following observations on various matters referred to therein.

2. Administration (paragraph 6).—As will be seen from paragraph 41, telegraphic communications were extended from Salaga to Tamale (78 miles) and from Bole to Wa (70 miles), during the year under review; and provision for further extensions will be made, probably in the 1909 Estimates, as soon as more urgently-required lines in Ashanti have been completed.

3. Education (paragraphs 20 and 21).—Steps are now being taken to arrange for training a few lads from the Northern Territories in the Government School at Cape Coast; and provision will be made for establishing a Government School at Tamale, as soon as a qualified native teacher is available.

The language difficulty I have already alluded to with reference to a meeting which I had with chiefs assembled at Wa in the course of my tour of the Northern Territories in 1906:

“The languages and dialects of the various tribes, even within a comparatively small radius, are very numerous; and in a ‘palaver’ with the chiefs on the day after our arrival I was obliged to employ five different interpreters to explain my address to the assembled chiefs—in Hausa, Bole, Lobi, Grunshi, and Moshi.”

4. Labour Supply (paragraphs 22 and 23).—These paragraphs will be referred to the Secretary for Mines, for enquiry and report; but special instructions were issued, in the first instance, as to the care and protection to be afforded to these hinterland natives employed at the mines, and when I was at Tarkwa last year I heard excellent accounts of them.

5. Public Works (paragraphs 24-31).—The manner in which the new headquarters have been established at Tamale is very satisfactory.

6. Roads (paragraphs 37-39).—Good progress seems to have been made with the trunk road from Tamale to Kumasi, a distance of, approximately, 250 miles.

7. Missions (paragraph 43).—These “White Fathers” are the French missionaries belonging to Cardinal Lavigerie’s Order of “Pères Blancs.”

8. Cotton Experiment (paragraph 44).—The question of developing the cultivation of cotton in the Northern Territories, for purposes of export, is dealt with in the last report of the Superintendent of Agriculture for British West Africa.

9. Agricultural Shows (paragraph 46).—Special arrangements will be made for ensuring a good representation of products from the Northern Territories at the Kumasi Agricultural Show, to be held at the end of the current year; and every facility will be afforded to chiefs and others wishing to attend that Show, the date of which will be fixed in consultation with both the Chief Commissioners concerned.

In this connection I may mention that provision has been made in the 1908 Estimates for a native travelling instructor, to improve and encourage the development of agriculture in the Northern Territories; and that, as I have already reported, an Agricultural Station will be established at Tamale next year.

10. Technical Instruction (paragraphs 47-50).—It is unfortunate that the experimental looms from England have not proved a success, and I question whether it will be practicable to send out a special instructor; but it should be possible for some selected officer from the Northern Territories to obtain sufficient practical knowledge, while on leave, to enable him to teach the local weavers if the looms in question are not too complicated.

11. Trade (paragraph 55).—If, as I believe is the case, a nickel currency has been adopted in Southern Nigeria (possibly also in Northern Nigeria), I agree with the Chief Commissioner that it would probably be advisable to adopt a similar currency for this Colony and its Dependencies; and, after further enquiry, I will address Your Lordship on the subject in a separate despatch.

12. Health (paragraph 69).—The epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis is a continuation of that referred to in paragraph 30 of the Annual Report on the Northern Territories for the year 1906; and although only a few sporadic cases have recently occurred in these Territories the disease still forms the subject of careful enquiry and investigation both in England and West Africa.

13. In conclusion, I trust that our Lordship will agree with me in thinking that this Report is generally satisfactory; that the substitution of a civil for the previous semi-military administration of these Territories has been fully justified; and that the progress made, both in civilizing the natives and developing the resources of their country, reflects much credit on Colonel Watherston and his assistants.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RODGER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
&c., &c., &c.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR 1907.

POLITICAL.

1. During the year under review excellent relations have existed locally with the foreign Powers whose boundaries are contiguous to our own. Constant interchanges of visits have taken place at all our border stations with the French posts in their neighbourhood, and several English officers spent the 14th July, by special invitation, at Wagadugu, the French headquarters.

Towards the close of the year the French military administration gave way to a purely civil administration, but up to the present there has been no change in the location of the centres of their administration. With their assistance, we were able to break up an organised gang of robbers, whose looting was done chiefly in our country, and who were doing considerable harm to the trade passing from Moshi through Gambaga to Kumasi. All attempts to arrest them failed, as they invariably took refuge in French territory. However, thanks to the co-operation of the French Resident of Tenkodogo, all the leading members of the gang are now undergoing lengthy terms of imprisonment, and the gang itself is completely broken up.

ADMINISTRATION.

2. The year marks a great epoch in the administration of the country, in that on the 1st January a combined military and civil administration, from which it was impossible to get adequate results, gave way to a purely civil administration, the 2nd Gold Coast Regiment, West African Frontier Force, being disbanded and replaced by a considerably reduced number of civil police, called the "Northern Territories Constabulary," a portion of whom are mounted; and, in accordance with the general scheme on which the West African Frontier Force is founded, the Protectorate maintains at Gambaga, and bears the cost of, one company of the force, whose regimental headquarters are at Kumasi.

3. In accordance with the new scheme of administration, districts have been formed as follows:—

- (a.) The Southern Province, headquarters at Tamale, sub-districts at Salaga, Yeji, and Bole.
- (b.) The North Western Province, headquarters at Wa, sub-districts at Lorha (Lobi country) and Tumu (Grunshi country).

- (c.) The North Eastern Province, headquarters at Gambaga, sub-district at Navarro.

Provincial Commissioners are in charge of the headquarters, and District Commissioners at the sub-districts.

4. The headquarters of Administration were moved in December from Gambaga to Tamale.

5. Towards the close of the year Yeji as a sub-district was closed down, and it is hoped, when sufficient District Commissioners are in the country, to make a sub-district at Bawku, in the North Eastern Province, where European supervision is very badly wanted.

6. During the year the Southern Province and the North Western Province were put in proper working order, but for several reasons it was found impossible to organise the North Eastern Province, the main one being that in the District were a great number of towns that showed no intention of coming under our control. It was considered advisable to place the Provincial Commissioner at Navarro to get in touch with the surrounding country, whilst the Chief Commissioner undertook the local work at Gambaga, as had been the custom under the old system. From the results of an incident mentioned further on in this Report, the main obstacle has been removed, and on the return of the Provincial Commissioner from leave the District will be organised on its proper basis. Naturally with a new scheme, a great many possible improvements have been brought to notice, but on the whole the scheme is working quite up to expectations; though it is hoped that by 1909 more decentralization will be possible, especially in finance matters, which, with the absence of a complete system of telegraph service, are apt to get out of control of headquarters. Attention is specially called to this, as it is difficult to realize what it means to have to deal with urgent matters when it takes 16 days for a message to come and 16 days for its return. This will be remedied no doubt in a year or two when money is available to complete the telegraph system.

7. All officials have worked most loyally to make the new scheme a success, and the constant travelling, impossible under the old military system, has already worked wonders in developing and bringing into touch previously unknown districts.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

8. The administration of the country under what is undoubtedly the only sound method, viz., by the natives themselves, is rendered particularly difficult for many reasons in the Northern Territories. They may be shortly put as follows:—

- (1.) Absence of any really big chiefs.

- (2.) The break up of what were kingdoms to a certain degree, by Samory and Barbatu, and consequent independence of small communities.
- (3.) The absolute imbecility of 60 per cent. of the present elected chiefs.
- (4.) The want of any common laws, even amongst tribes speaking one language, with regard to land, matrimony, &c. It is rare to find the head of a family ever treated with respect by his sons after they have once reached a certain age.
- (5.) The constant stream of traders passing through the country who prefer to bring their small native matters to the white man rather than take them to the local chief.

9. With regard to the first,—the want of big men in the country.

The only organised tribes are:—

- (i.) The Mamprussi, under the King of Gambaga.
- (ii.) The Gonjas, under the King of Khombe, residing near Salaga.
- (iii.) The Walas, under the King of Wa.
- (iv.) The two sections of the Dagombas, one under the Chief of Karaga, the other under the Chief of Savelugu, both originally under the Kings of Yendi, which latter town is now in possession of Germany.

10. Of these the two latter are probably the strongest men, and their people are more intelligent than any other; their chiefs are a very much better class than can be found elsewhere in the country, and it was mainly due to this that the new headquarters have been moved to Tamale, situated as it is in a very thickly populated part of the country under the King of Savelugu.

11. The remainder of the country, Lobis, Dagartis, Grunshis, Kussassis, were broken up in 1896 to 1898 by Samory and Barbatu; and each compound more or less is a law unto themselves. They obey no man really, though they have nominal chiefs, selected as a rule for their incapacity to make anyone obey them. Partial blindness, paralysis, and often idiocy appear to have been the qualifications in many parts of the country, the only *sine qua non* being that the chief should have plenty of cattle, as on him falls the privilege of paying any fines that the Commissioner might impose on the town.

12. Much trouble has been taken to divide these people up into their original divisions, and to come under the paramount chiefs whom they were in the habit of obeying before Samory and Barbatu overran the country. It has been

attended with great success in the North Western District, where every town has been allotted to some paramount chief with their own consent, and they now take their native disputes to the chiefs, which has considerably reduced the work that fell previously to the Commissioners' Courts.

13. This is due to constant travelling, constant speeches, and care taken to replace each impotent chief by the best selection that could be made whenever occasion arises, but it will be two generations at least before we get chiefs who will approach anything like what is required for general progress and administration in the country as far as native assistance is concerned. This subject is dealt with further on in the Report.

14. The absence of any strict laws or even customs over matrimony leads to most of the civil cases in Court. The constancy with which a woman changes her husband would be humorous if it were not for the trouble it gives. A good deal of this curious breach of their old tribal customs is due to the advent of the soldiers into the country and the constant stream of traders of all nations that pass through. When they are tired of travelling day after day, they go to the soldiers' lines. There, after a time, they find the constant water-carrying a trial, so they run away, either to their own villages or join another caravan, and up to a certain age they are always changing, leading to constant fights between the last and the new husband, which are often taken up by the respective villages of the two men.

15. The most important events of the year under this heading have been the pacification of a part of the country referred to in last year's Report as the Sapari Hills, in which it was feared that an expedition would have to take place. The other was the break up of a gang of looters who were doing much to drive traders to Togoland rather than face the dangers of the Gambaga-Kumasi Road at the point where it crossed the northern frontier.

16. With regard to the first of these, Captain O'Kinealy, the Provincial Commissioner at Navarro, had continually visited the neighbourhood and endeavoured to find out all he could about the people inhabiting this district, but found it very hard to get any definite information, as they were greatly feared and it was almost impossible to get a guide to go anywhere near them. In September an opportunity presented itself, and with Dr. Lefanu, Medical Officer, and 15 constables he made an unexpected march into the hills and surprised the inhabitants by appearing up an almost inaccessible path with their horses. The people, taken by surprise, at first ran away, but came back the next day, and after a few more days were induced to collect for a palaver, at which they said that the reason for their enmity to the white man was

that Moshis, sent by the white man, had settled near their country, heard cases, confiscated their cattle, and so they had combined to fight all Moshi and white men, but that they had no grievance against the white man except in so far as they considered that the Moshi had been sent by the white man. A reference is made further on in the Report to the Moshi trouble. On being informed that the Moshi had no connection with the white man, and that at that time some of their leaders were in prison, being punished and removed from the country, they said they were willing to live peacefully and come in to Navarro, the headquarters of their district. Captain O'Kinealy remained 14 days amongst them, visited all their towns, and reports that there will be no need for any expedition in the future. Thanks are greatly due to Captain O'Kinealy and Dr. Lefanu for their plucky action; for had we gone there with any considerable force the people would have certainly combined for a fight; and the steep precipices that surround their stronghold, and the fact that every road leading up to the hills is extremely steep amidst large rocks and caves, would have led to a great many casualties before the place could have been taken.

17. The Moshi referred to above were important men in the old Moshi Horse, a native mounted levy which was used in the old days on expeditions, and disbanded a few years ago. Some of their leading men had settled in some parts of the country where they knew the white man never went, and giving out they were sent by the white man to keep order, they proceeded to exploit the surrounding country for their own purposes. They were accompanied by many followers armed with Dane guns, and stopped at nothing, including murder, to enforce their power. Three of the leading men were arrested during the year, condemned to death for murder, and executed, one in the neighbourhood of the Sapari Hills and two at Gambaga; and this gave Captain O'Kinealy, who had gathered from information that the fear of the Moshi had as much to do as anything with their hostile attitude, the chance he was waiting for.

18. The opening of the station at Lorha has had an excellent effect on the turbulent Lobis on our side of the river, though it is understood that the same tribe still give much trouble to the French on their side. There are still a few in the south-west corner who have not come in yet, but they have been recently visited and an effort made to induce them to give up looting and fighting.

19. There is still a tendency in this part of the country to fly to the bow and arrow on the least provocation, but the cases are usually reported now by the chiefs, a few of whom are making a great effort to rule their newly-obtained districts in an efficient manner, as they are beginning to realize how trade is affected by this danger of being shot at, and how

little of it comes to these districts in consequence, for though they do not want to buy anything, they make money out of providing the caravans with food.

EDUCATION.

20. In face of the fact that for the most part the present generation of chiefs and most of their probable successors will be of little use to us in administration or in any capacity whatever, it would appear that there is the most pressing need for schools to be started at the administrative centres, so that a new generation of chiefs may be trained. The difficulty that at once presents itself is the many different languages that are in use, not one of which an educated native teacher from the coast is likely to speak. The main languages are:—Gonja, Dagomba, Wala, Lobi, Dagarti, Grunshi, Nankanni, Kus-sassi, Mamprussi, and Kanjargah. A corrupted form of Hausa as a means of communication can usually be found in every village, but except in the big trading towns it is by no means common. Consequently it would appear that a start should be made at once to educate a few selected intelligent men of each tribe in English, so that, as soon as funds can be provided for the introduction of an educational system, they may be in a position to act as interpreters to the native-trained school teachers when they arrive in the country.

From the point of view of increased trade, a complete and thorough scheme of education all over the country is, in my opinion, of certainly as much use at present as money spent in roads.

21. It is greatly to be hoped that money can be found in 1909 to start the education scheme on the lines suggested above. I hold very strongly with the opinion that the pushing of the English language in the country is of more lasting benefit than forcing Commissioners to learn one of the many languages.

LABOUR SUPPLY.

22. During this year an effort has been made to induce the natives to go down to work in the mines. About 400 are at work, and the future supply will depend very much on their report as to treatment and the amount of pay they save.

23. Reports to hand at present show that whereas on one or two mines the managers are taking much trouble with them, on others they are being exploited by the more astute native of the coast, and will probably return with nothing. With care and trouble there is without doubt a large supply of labour to draw on, should the mining industry develop and require it, but if the natives once get an idea that they cannot save money, the supply will cease at once. The men from the

North Western Province, from which most of them have come, are men of good physique, and I understand they are giving satisfaction.

Local labour is easily procurable, and has been largely employed during the current year on the telegraph extension.

PUBLIC WORKS.

(a) *New Headquarters.*

24. Though only commenced in March, considerable progress has been made in building the new headquarters. Much trouble was experienced at first in inducing skilled labour to come up at anything like a reasonable price, owing to the fear they had of the country. At the present moment there is no difficulty in obtaining as much as is wanted, the safety of the country and the cheapness of living having been reported to the coast by the first comers.

25. By the end of the year sufficient buildings had been erected to allow of the Chief Commissioner moving down with his office and clerks, and it is expected that the other heads of departments will be in residence by the first week in April, 1908.

26. The headquarters are situated in a very populous district, and very large markets are held in the town, and in many neighbouring ones every sixth day, and the daily market is rapidly growing.

27. Situated on a ridge, with very extensive views to the east and west in open park-like country, excellent water supply, and reported amongst natives as being extremely healthy for men, cattle, and horses, it is doubtful if a better-situated station exists in West Africa. Plenty of excellent sites exist for European residences, should traders settle later on.

28. A road will be made shortly to Yapei, on the river Volta, distance $1\frac{1}{2}$ days' march, which should become the port for river-borne trade, canoes being able to reach there for several months in the year. The markets here and in the neighbourhood are so large that little doubt exists that this can be made the distributing centre of the Northern Territories.

29. The residential houses are being built of stone, two-storey, with shingle roofs, and during the year under review, besides many temporary buildings, the following progress has been made in the permanent ones:—Two quarters are practically completed, Court-house and two offices for the District Commissioner are all but finished. A general store will be completed early in January, and by the 1st April the Treasury and Constabulary buildings, main guard, and vault will be ready for use, and three bungalows. The total cost is estimated at £8,750, spread over three years. Besides the above,

a large amount of bush clearing has been done, and three-quarters of a mile of a good road made past the sites of the bungalows. The total money voted and spent during the year was £1,150.

30. A special feature is the interest the natives have shown in the work, and the assistance in shape of free labour which has been willingly given by the surrounding chiefs for clearing the ground, carrying stones, and other unskilled labour.

31. Mule carts are in use now for bringing in timber, &c.

(b) *Out-stations.*

32. The new districts of Lorha, Tumu, and Bole were started at the beginning of the year.

33. At Lorha, a residence with three rooms, clerks' quarters, a dispensary, and a fort (inside which are the Court-house, stores, Treasury vault, guard-room, and prison) were completed. An excellent site has been selected about three-quarters of a mile from the Black Volta River, but there is a difficulty at present in finding a good water supply in the immediate vicinity of the station.

34. At Tumu a suitable station has been laid out with two European quarters, clerks' and dispenser's quarters, Court-house, hospital, and district office, also stables. All the above are of burnt brick.

35. At Bole a house has been erected, Court-house, offices, and a prison. Here local labour was very difficult to obtain.

36. Considering all the above was done by the District Commissioner of the place and the Medical Officer in addition to their other duties, and there was no skilled labour available, it reflects great credit on the officers concerned.

Roads.

37. The section of the Yeji-Kratchi road lying in the Protectorate was completed during the year, and there remains a portion in the Ashanti Administration to be completed. It is hoped that as soon as this road is finished an impetus will be given to the trade that reaches this country by the River Volta. The road passes through a very sparsely inhabited country, but I am assured that many people are waiting to settle on it as soon as it is completed.

38. A start was made towards the end of the rains on the trunk road, Kumasi to Tamale, commencing at the left bank of the River Volta at Yeji. Some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, partially metalled, has been formed over one of the worst swamps the road has to cross, a swamp that extends about seven miles. As soon as

this is completed the formation should extend very rapidly. Plenty of stone exists, and few bridges will be required. The road will pass through Salaga, Dogonkade, Turu, Palbe, Kapendi, Yamalagha, to Tamale, distance about 120 miles.

39. At present the roads mentioned in my last Annual Report are kept clean and meet all the present requirements of the country. Money has been voted in 1908 for their upkeep, and this will be spent in clearing away stumps, roots, and rocks, and widening the more important ones with a view to their being metalled later on when the trunk road is completed. Officials home on leave now have signified their intention of bringing out light carts for the purposes of visiting their districts. This applies to the North Western District, where use has been made of the very populous condition of the country to clear roads between every village.

Rest Houses.

40. Rest houses are being gradually erected by the natives under supervision at the principal halting places on the main roads and in all villages where paramount chiefs live.

They take the form of circular Dagomba huts, three of which are erected at each place, with boys' room and kitchen.

This allows the District Commissioner from time to time to settle down with his clerk in a new part of his district for a fortnight at a time, even in the rainy season, and thus get more in touch with the natives than a visit during a hurried tour allows.

TELEGRAPHS.

41. Important extensions of lines were made during the year from Salaga to Tamale on the east (78 miles), and from Bole to Wa on the west (70 miles). Between these respective stations the telephone is in use.

MAHOMMEDANS' AND OTHER MISSIONS.

42. From reports generally it would appear that the recent spread of Mahommedanism has not been continued. In places it has remained dormant and in others a retrograde motion to the former paganism has taken place.

They keep the praying places, however, in case any more missions should come, but during the year the country has been free from the Marabouts and foreign Malams.

43. The White Fathers have been settled at a mission station at Navarro, but as they are still learning the language they have made little progress at present.

COTTON EXPERIMENT.

44. The British Cotton Growing Association kindly provided some seed for experimental purposes of American Rattler cotton and Volta River cotton.

They were tried at two places, Salaga, 23 miles from the river, and the centre of a big distributing trade, and at Yeji, on the banks of the Volta. At both places the American was a failure, and at Salaga the Volta was much discoloured owing to a maggot in the seeds, but at Yeji some very good cotton was produced from the Black Volta cotton, and picked in December. Samples have been sent to the Imperial Institute. A great deal of native cotton is grown in the North Western Province, but if the Yeji cotton proves to have sufficient market value, a large area of country close to the river could be put under cultivation, the situation being an exceptionally good one, as there is a big salt trade up to Yeji and Daboya, and many of the canoes return to Kratchi and Kpong at present empty.

PRISONS.

45. A substantial prison has been built at Gambaga and a carpenters' shop attached to it, and all the longer term prisoners are employed in it. Unfortunately so much clearing of station roads, water carrying, and sanitary details are required in each station that it is impossible to carry out the same system in the out-stations at present.

SEKONDI AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

46. It was extremely difficult to get the natives of the country to take any interest whatever in the Sekondi Agricultural Show. An attempt was made and what little was done is due mainly to the energy of the Provincial Commissioner, North Western District, who unfortunately, owing to his carriers running away, arrived with only a portion of the exhibits. These were not entered for prizes, but Captain Read reports that the ground-nuts, guinea corn, millet, rice, shea butter-nuts, shea butter, European vegetables and cotton compared favourably with those from Ashanti and the Colony, and would undoubtedly have taken prizes. Another effort will be made to raise more interest next year for the Kumasi Show, and this might be obtained by arranging to take as many chiefs as possible down to it, and persuading them to grow produce specially for it.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

47. Some money was voted in the Estimates for the introduction of a hand loom into the country with a view of making cloth of a wider width than the present somewhat primitive native loom produces, but it is greatly to be regretted that it has not so far been attended with success.

48. In the first case the looms were sent out with certain parts deficient, and though there is no doubt the native will be able to learn its use in time, the looms are somewhat complicated and require a professional instructor to educate the natives in their use.

49. One District Commissioner spent considerable time when on leave learning the use of the loom, but he has left the Protectorate, and during the short time he was in the country, he found it impossible to give the necessary time to teach the natives.

50. It will be necessary to have an instructor out and to instruct selected youths; the older men engaged in the weaving trade are too conservative to take much interest in it, or leave their old native pattern looms.

TRADE.

51. The increase in trade that took place in 1906 has been fully maintained, and very much less trade goods have been brought in from Togoland than in the previous year, and the bulk now comes from Kumasi.

52. From information derived from the French Officers, however, it would appear that the reverse holds good in their country and German goods of an inferior quality are flooding the markets of the Upper Niger where formerly English goods from Kumasi were to be seen.

53. The big markets of Salaga and Gambaga are carefully watched, but the revenue from the 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty charged has fallen considerably this year.

54. Recent tours show that silver coinage with 3d. as the smallest coin was not popular, and cowries alone are accepted in many parts.

55. In connection with this question of currency it must be remembered that traders pass through the Protectorate from every part of Northern Africa in order to obtain kola-nut, and if nickel coinage is circulated in Kano and Sokoto it will find its way here, and it might be well worth consideration to introduce a small coin that will be accepted as currency in both countries.

56. The great demand is for looking-glasses, combs, beads of superior quality, better brass rods than are at present being sold in Kumasi, good pieces of coloured silk and velvet, cloth and calico printed both sides, enamelled and brass basins, needles, reels of cotton, sewing machines, fish hooks, handkerchiefs, enamel ware, antimony, brass nails, cutlasses, hand hoes, knives, pipes, and matches.

57. There is a growing disposition on the part of the natives to sell their local cattle. There is no comparison for purposes of food between the cattle of Dagomba, on the east, and the

enormous herds in Lobi, Dagarti, and Grunshi, on the west, and the coarse hump-backed cattle that the caravans bring down from Moshi.

58. A cattle fair was to have been held in Tumu, for a week, as an experiment, and traders were coming from Kumasi specially to buy. Unfortunately the Medical Officers were obliged to forbid the gathering of so many people owing to the outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis, but an attempt will be made to hold it later.

59. Salt and kola still form the basis of the up trade and shea-butter of the down trade, but an enormous amount of the latter is unpicked annually. The country is eminently suited for cotton-growing, and the only thing required is a market for both that and the shea-butter-nuts.

60. Excellent vine rubber has been found in the North Western part of the Protectorate called Pempemeh (Apocynaceous vine), but exists in small quantities.

61. Other products under examination at the present moment are fibre, tobacco, copal, and wood oil.

62. Caravanserais have been built at all the resting places on the main trade roads near water, consisting of a circular wall, inside which the caravans can put their cattle at night, and six or eight huts at each place.

TAXATION.

63. No taxes exist in the country with the exception of the Caravan Tax, which forms the main revenue of the Northern Territories.

REVENUE.

64. The revenue from all sources during the year under review amounted to £18,046 19s. 6d., being an increase of £3,942 12s. 3d. compared with the previous year.

65. This increase of revenue is due entirely to the increased trade coming to the country as shown by the Caravan Tax returns. Owing to the new stations at Lorha, Tumu, and Navarro, and the consequent improved state of the country in these districts, so many more markets, where formerly Hausa traders feared to go with their goods, have been opened to trade.

CRIME.

66. The returns show an increase of crime in the protectorate, but this is mainly due to the increase in administrative centres, and to the fact that the natives are bringing in their complaints much more freely than they used to.

HEALTH.

67. I regret that during the year under review the health had not been so good as formerly. Rain came late and in

very uncertain quantities, much delaying the harvest, and in some cases rendering a second planting necessary.

68. Five cases of black-water fever occurred amongst Europeans, one at Tamale, and one at Salaga. These patients were invalided, it being the second attack in one case. The other cases occurred at Navarro and Gambaga. One proved fatal, but both the others were able to continue their work after recovery and completed their tour.

69. A great deal of fever existed at Gambaga; and it was a disastrous year for horses, many dying, some quite suddenly. A poisonous tulip growing amongst the grass is the cause of some deaths, and the others tsetse fly.

An epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis swept over the North Western part of the country, and over 10,000 deaths must have occurred in the Grunshi, Dagarti, and Lobi country, whole families dying in a single day.

70. A report by the Senior Medical Officer is attached.

ORDINANCES.

71. The following Ordinance was passed during the year:—

No. 1. An Ordinance to amend "The Fugitive Criminals Surrender Ordinance," 9th October, 1907.

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

Comparative Statement of Revenue collected in the Northern Territories (Gold Coast), 1906 and 1907.

Source of Revenue.	1906.	1907.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs Duties	131 4 3	41 1 9
Caravan Taxes	11,803 8 0	15,851 2 0
Slaughter Taxes	570 14 6	470 7 6
Stall Holders' Fees	319 14 8	422 12 9
Court Fines, &c.	893 13 1	1,069 2 10
Sale of Provisions, Medical Stores, &c.	76 12 6	39 3 9
Sale of Live Stock	98 2 9	30 3 7
Sale of Stamps	25 2 3	21 15 3
Ferry Dues	27 0 0	30 1 0
Shooting Licences	61 10 0	—
Trade Goods	97 5 5	71 9 3
Miscellaneous	14,104 7 5	18,046 19 8
Total		
Increases	£4,329 2 10	
Decreases	386 10 7	
Total Increase	£3,942 12 3	

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Comparative Table showing the number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions and Acquittals for 1906 and 1907.

	1906.	1907.
The number of offences reported to the Police	325	402
The number of persons apprehended by the Police or summoned before the Magistrates.	325	402
The number of summary convictions :—		
1. For offences against the person	118	86
2. For slave dealing	27	6
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	66	69
4. For other offences	41	132
The number of convictions in the Superior Courts :—		
1. For offences against the person	8	9
2. For slave dealing	—	4
3. For offences against property, other than prædial larceny.	23	29
4. For other offences	30	52
The number of persons acquitted :—		
1. In the inferior Courts	13	10
2. In the Superior Courts	9	5

A. E. WATHERSTON, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Commissioner,
Northern Territories.

MEDICAL REPORT ON THE NORTHERN TERRITORIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1907.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The year 1907 has been remarkable for the large increase in the number of cases of black-water fever. Five cases occurred during the year with one death, two being invalided to England, and the remaining two completed their tour of service.

The number of European officials actually placed on the sick list was 67, as compared with 101 during the year 1906, the population being practically the same.

No case of bilious remittent fever occurred throughout the Northern Territories, and I consider the attacks of malarial fevers were of a mild and a shorter duration than in previous years.

The first case of enteric fever which has occurred in the Northern Territories since the occupation 11 years ago, was reported at the early part of the year under review.

The official is supposed to have contracted the disease through drinking unboiled milk on his way up country, and after 119 days on the sick list, was invalided to Kumasi and thence home.

The following table shows the comparative health of the stations in the Northern Territories for the year, and includes all officials placed on the sick list:—

Station.	Strength.	Number placed on sick list.	Average number of days.	Invalided.	Died.
Gambaga ...	5.65	27	9.62	1	—
Navarro ...	1.0	5	7.8	—	1
Tumu ...	1.7	7	2.8	—	—
Lorha ...	1.3	1	3.0	—	—
Wa ...	2.07	8	2.37	—	—
Bole ...	1.7	2	5.00	—	—
Saliga and Yeji	3.9	10	6.8	1	—
Tamale ...	1.5	7	3.8	1	—
	19.22	67	4.71	3	1

Officials suffered chiefly from remittent fever and intermittent fever (31 and 12 cases respectively), and three officials were invalided from enteric fever and black-water fever as compared with five in 1906.

NATIVE OFFICIAL.

The health of the native staff was most satisfactory throughout the year, one clerk was invalided and no death occurred.

The average number of days on the sick list for the year was 5.48.

NATIVE TROOPS.

The health was good during 1907, and I am glad to be able to report that no death from cerebro-spinal meningitis occurred amongst the men of the Gold Coast Regiment or Northern Territories Constabulary.

TOWNPEOPLE.

It is satisfactory to learn that the natives are seeking medical and surgical treatment in increasing numbers.

The principal diseases for which they apply for relief are, ulcers of a very severe and obstinate type, guinea worm, bronchial catarrh during the Harmattan season, craw eraw, and constipation.

EPIDEMICS.

The number of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis which occurred was much less than in the previous years, and the disease was more confined to the North Western District, no cases being reported from any of the other districts in the Protectorate.

During the month of September it was reported that a number of deaths had taken place at a place Brumassi, in the Gonja District, and lying two days' march west of Salaga. Two Medical Officers were sent to investigate the disease, and Dr. Gush after making some experiments and careful inquiries came to the conclusion that the disease was anthrax.

SANITATION.

It is satisfactory to note that on the whole the sanitary condition of all the stations in the Northern Territories shows improvement; it is difficult from a sanitary point to deal with some of the new stations which have only been formed since the beginning of the year and for months have been without a Medical Officer.

The European quarters have been kept clean and in good condition.

WATER.

The water at some of the stations is at present unsatisfactory, especially during the dry season.

I hope to see this remedied shortly by the sinking of good wells, which should be rendered mosquito proof.

GARDENS.

Nearly all the stations have gardens, which are looked after by the Medical Officers of the station, and except for a couple of months during the dry season a fair supply of vegetables can always be obtained. At Gambaga and Tamale larger gardens exist, which are able to supply vegetables throughout the year.

The chief things grown are: tomatoes, French beans, garden eggs, carrots, cucumbers, kohl rabi.

This year bananas and pawpaw have been a great success in Gambaga.

At Gambaga the supply has been so large that I have been able to give the native clerks, for several months, some of the above-named fruits.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The rainfall for 1907 was four inches less than the average for the last six years, and occurred much later than usual.

The Harmattan blew strongly during the first two months of the year and caused a good deal of bronchial trouble.

Guinea worm, as usual, was prevalent during the rainy months.

I attach a list with rainfall from 1902 to 1907.

H. TWEEDY,
Senior Medical Officer,
Northern Territories.

31st January, 1908.

Table of Rainfall from 1902 to 1907 at Gambaga.

Months.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	Remarks.
	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	
January	—	—	—	—	—	—	
February	20	—	—	—	—	—	
March	—	—	16	09	15	121	
April	202	295	174	394	266	264	
May	563	565	665	461	607	406	
June	479	16	319	547	666	568	
July	636	460	1001	983	388	287	
August	940	1175	725	1513	1027	963	
September	512	1457	797	1143	806	919	
October	383	117	309	486	518	322	
November	45	30	—	35	—	67	
December	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	3780	4130	4006	5571	4293	3917	

APPENDIX.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CONSTABULARY.

Annual Report for the Year 1907.

ORGANISATION.

1. The Northern Territories Constabulary was formed on the 1st January, 1907, owing to the disbandment of the 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment (West African Frontier Force) on the 31st December, 1906.

All its members had served in the disbanded battalion, and its strength is as follows:—

- 1 Commandant.
- 1 Assistant Commandant.
- 1 Regimental Sergeant Major
- 1 Native Armourer Sergeant.
- 11 Sergeants.
- 9 Corporals.
- 22 Lance-Corporals.
- 270 Constables.
- 1 Drummer.
- 1 Quartermaster Sergeant.
- 1 Orderly Room Sergeant.
- 1 Paymaster's Clerk.
- 1 Tailor.

Total 2 Officers and 319 other ranks.

DISTRIBUTION.

2. The force contains 66 mounted men, and is distributed at the following stations: Gambaga, Wa, Navarro, Bole, Lorha, Tumu, Tamale, Salaga, and Yeji.

On the 1st November, 1907, Yeji ceased to be an independent station for the force, and the non-commissioned officers and men were distributed between Salaga and Tamale.

DISCIPLINE.

3. The behaviour of the men generally has been very good during the year. There were only three desertions.

RECRUITING.

4. Fourteen recruits were enlisted, and nine of them passed into the ranks as trained constables during the year.

Eleven men were re-enlisted, having been discharged soldiers of good character from the late 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment.

Five men were re-engaged into the force from the Gold Coast Regiment.

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT.

5. The new blue uniform for the force not having arrived during the year, all ranks received khaki clothing from the surplus stock remaining of the late 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment.

There is no change in the equipment, it having been taken over from the late disbanded battalion, and is almost all part-worn.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

6. The arms were retained by the men on formation of the force, and every precaution was taken to ensure that all arms, ammunition, and equipment on charge at head-quarters and at the out-stations were properly looked after.

COMMAND.

7. During the year under review the force was commanded by Lieutenant C. J. Elkan, Assistant Commandant from the 1st January until the 14th June, and from the 15th June until the end of the year by Captain J. Marlow, Commandant.

REMARKS.

8. Owing to the difficulty of relieving me, I was unable to make an inspection of all the out-stations; the following only were inspected by me: Yeji, Salaga, Tamale, Navarro, and Gambaga (head-quarters).

At each inspection the men turned out clean and smart, and their arms and equipment in serviceable condition.

They were very steady on parade and well acquainted with their drill.

They appear to have been well looked after by the District Commissioners at the various stations.

J. MARLOW, Captain,
Commandant,
Northern Territories Constabulary.

Gambaga,
21st January, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements... ..	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do. (1906-7).
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa... ..	Native Education.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 546.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 501.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1907.



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By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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1907.

[Cd. 3729-10.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 546.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 501.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Vincent,

18th September, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of the Colony of Grenada for the year 1906-7, together with a report thereon by Mr. Drayton, the Colonial Secretary of Grenada.

I have, &c.,

RALPH WILLIAMS,

Governor.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1906.

FINANCIAL.

FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COLONY.

The pecuniary assets of the Colony at 31st March, 1907 (*see* Table A in Appendix), amounted to £40,880, and the liabilities to £18,558, showing a surplus of assets of £22,328, as compared with £20,968 at 31st March, 1906. The loss which had occurred on the transactions of the financial year 1905-6 was thus made good during 1906-7, a result obtained by close control of expenditure combined with a slight improvement in revenue returns.

2. The revenue, expenditure, and surplus assets in the last five financial years were as follows :—

Year.				Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
				£	£	£
1902-3	...	...	...	72,802	68,669	22,199
1903-4	...	...	...	70,260	70,101	22,649
1904-5	...	...	...	68,993	69,510	22,408
1905-6	...	...	...	69,954	71,968	20,968
1906-7	...	...	...	71,786	70,379	22,322

REVENUE.

3. The revenue of 1906-7 was £71,786, or £1,832 in excess of the previous year (*see* Table B). A tendency to increase is shown under several heads, Customs receipts being £463 in excess of 1905-6, fees of office, &c. £591, and land sales £531; this last was due to the sale of valuable escheated property.

EXPENDITURE.

4. The expenditure (*see* Table C) was £70,379, or £1,589 less than in 1905-6, the gross decrease being £4,391, and the gross increase £2,802, under the several heads. The increase under the head "Governor" is due to the emoluments of the new staff officer for the Windward Islands being brought on charge for the first time. Those under "Excise" and "Port and Marine" are partly accounted for by savings under "Treasury" and "Police." "Education" shows a large decrease upon the high figures of the preceding year, in consequence of the unsettled state of matters educational during the year, to which reference will be made in its proper place. The increase of special expenditure of the Telephone Department was caused by the purchase of the premises

in St. George's used as the Central Exchange, for which rent had previously been paid. A decrease of £1,423 altogether is shown under Public Works, outlay in this direction being necessarily restricted during the year. The Imperial Grant to the Agricultural Department exhibits an increase of £175, consequent upon the new arrangement adopted during 1906 being in force during the whole financial year, and also because of the Windward Islands' Agricultural Scholarships being now held by a Grenadian.

CHANGES IN TAXATION.

5. There was a slight alteration in the land tax during the year, land in the small islets surrounding the island being taxed at the lower rate of three pence an acre, instead of one shilling as heretofore, and the exemption of holdings used solely for pasturing of stock being abolished. The effect either way on the revenue of the Colony is unimportant.

PUBLIC DEBT.

6. The Public Debt stands at £123,670 in four per cent. inscribed stock, redeemable between 1917 and 1942 from a sinking fund in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, as Trustees, to which annual contributions of one per cent. on the nominal value of the stock are made, and which amounted at 31st March, 1907, to £19,807.

DISTRICT BOARDS' FINANCES.

7. A statement of the revenue and expenditure of the local authorities, either as town, or, as at present, district boards, is included in the Appendix (Table D) for the five financial years ended 31st March, 1907. The increases shown in the last two years are due to the fact that the town authorities were absorbed in the district boards on the 1st October, 1905, and that these latter bodies received grants from Colonial revenue for upkeep of public by-ways. In St. David's District there is no town, and Hillsborough, Carriacou, remains in charge of a town authority only.

8. The loan debt of the district boards at 31st March, 1907, amounted to £17,024, the details being as follows :—

Board.					Amount.
					£
St. George's	...	...	...	...	9,981
St. John's	...	...	...	...	3,274
St. Mark's	...	...	...	...	1,469
St. Patrick's	...	...	...	...	1,250
St. Andrew's	...	...	...	...	1,050
Total	...	...	...	...	17,024

9. The debt of the St. George's Board was increased by £4,000 during the year by a loan from surplus assets of the Colony for the extension and improvement of the water supply of the town; it bears interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum, and is repayable by a sinking fund to which annual contributions of $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the amount of the loan are to be made. A great improvement of the water supply has been effected by this expenditure, but a further loan of £1,000 has been found necessary to satisfactorily complete the whole scheme, and is being advanced by Government this year.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

10. As will be seen from the following figures, the trade of the Colony continued on the down grade during the year 1906 :—

Year.				Imports.	Exports.	Total volume.
				£	£	£
1902	...	...	...	239,108	310,602	549,710
1903	...	...	...	235,440	283,565	519,005
1904	...	...	...	256,269	321,766	578,035
1905	...	...	...	237,256	283,955	521,211
1906	...	...	...	223,448	210,149	433,597

11. Two short cocoa crops following each other, the last being nearly 10,000 bags less than its already diminished predecessor, could not fail to produce this effect, and had it not been for the rise in prices of the staple product during the year, to which reference will be made later on, a more serious result would have ensued.

12. Table E, appended, classifies the trade of the last five years under the usual four statistical heads, and in Table F details of the principal items imported in the last two years are given. From this latter table it will be observed that the reduced purchasing power of the lower classes caused a diminution last year of imported food stuffs other than fresh vegetables, the urgent necessity for importing which still continues. The value of the imports of these has risen from £309 in 1903 to £2,538 in 1906.

13. Table G gives striking evidence of the shrinkage of exports of Colonial produce, cocoa appearing therein in 1906 as valued at only £166,538, compared with £272,226 in 1904, and spices as £24,941, against £33,767 in 1904. Fortunately cotton regained its former good position, and shows a value of £8,003.

14. The direction of the Colony's trade in the period 1902-6 is shown by Table H. This, as regards imports, can best be summarised here by tabulating the percentages of the totals as follows :—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	44	48	46	42	39
British Colonies ...	21	18	22	27	30
Foreign Countries ...	35	34	32	31	31

The tendency, therefore, to diminution of the import trade with the United Kingdom, which was commented upon in last year's report, continues, but the displacement appears to be in favour of British Colonies and not of foreign countries. Of the exports in 1906, 57 per cent. went to the United Kingdom, 39 per cent. to foreign countries, and 4 per cent. to British Colonies.

15. The trade with Canada in 1906 showed a reduction, consequent upon the subsidised steamship line ceasing to call at Grenada. Following are the figures of the trade in the last five years :—

Year.			Imports.	Exports.
			£	£
1902	...	...	9,140	91
1903	...	...	15,686	—
1904	...	...	11,811	52
1905	...	...	21,353	805
1906	...	...	15,257	469

16. Of the trade with foreign countries the United States of America, as usual, absorbed (*see* Table I.) the greater part, but neither in exports nor imports did it amount to as much as in any of the three preceding years. Compared with 1905 the imports thence were valued last year at £66,897 (90 per cent. of total) against £69,526 (96 per cent. of total), and the exports at £44,680 (54 per cent. of total) against £58,995 (62 per cent. of total).

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

17. The staple product of the Colony is cocoa, spices (chiefly nutmegs) coming next in importance, and cotton third.

Cocoa.

18. Throughout the British West Indies (except perhaps Jamaica) the year under review seems to have been a bad one

for cocoa, and a decreased importation therefrom into London alone of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds was recorded. Grenada shared in this bad season, her crop for the year ended 30th September, 1906, only amounting to 54,381 bags, against 64,319 in 1905 and 67,225 in 1904. Fortunately there was a remarkable rise in prices during the year, commencing about August, so that whereas the year opened with prices at 46s. to 52s. per cwt., it closed at 75s. to 82s. Another promising feature of the statistics of the year 1906 for a cocoa-producing colony is the steady increase shown in the world's consumption of the article. Reliable estimates show that since 1902 the quantity consumed has increased by about 40 per cent., and that in that period the United States of America and Germany have each nearly doubled the amount they consume. It may here be noted that the phenomenal rise in prices has continued up to the date of this report, when cocoa stands at 108s. per cwt. in the London market, the highest figure it has ever reached.

Spices.

19. The exports of spices in the last three years were as follows:—

Year.		Cwt.	£
1904	...	6,915 (5,908 nutmegs) ...	33,767
1905	...	8,862 (7,947 ") ...	27,992
1906	...	8,166 (7,263 ") ...	24,941

Neither in quantities nor values was the year, therefore, a satisfactory one. 1,781 cwt. of the exports of the year went to the United States of America, with which country the trade in this product unfortunately shows no tendency at present to increase.

Cotton.

20. The cotton and cotton seed exported are the product of the Colony's principal dependency, Carriacou,* where it has never ceased to be cultivated. The crop for 1906 was satisfactory as compared with the average, and 2,779 cwt. of cotton and 7,526 cwt. of seed were exported, worth £8,003, as compared with 1,899 cwt. of cotton and 4,849 cwt. of seed, worth £3,365 in 1905, when the crop failed in consequence of abnormally showery weather prevailing when the trees were setting the bolls. Another satisfactory feature of the output of 1906 was that a marked proportion of it consisted for the first time of Sea Island cotton, the acreage of which under cultivation in the dependency **is steadily increasing year by year as the peasants come to realise**

* Population, 1906, 7,430.

its value. At the Government Cotton Ginnery in Hillsborough, which is run so as to gin the peasant settlers' cotton at cost price, 33 bales of Sea Island and 136 bales of Marie Galante cotton were ginned during the year.

CARRIACOU LAND SETTLEMENT SCHEME.

21. Continued successful progress may again this year be recorded of this scheme. A fourth estate, Bellevue North, was acquired during 1906, but not so much for allotment (as very few holdings can be sold from it) as for conservation of the forest on the highest elevation in the island (980 feet), the crest of which it covers to the extent of 115 acres.

22. The following brief statement will show the pecuniary working of the scheme :—

Total expenditure for purchase of estates, surveys, legal expenses, &c., up to 31st	£
December, 1906	8,405
Cash returns up to 31st December, 1906	3,295
Net disbursement	£5,110

Lots surveyed for sale on the	£
first three estates 368 lots, value	7,466
Lots sold... .. 346 „ „	6,977
Lots not yet sold 22 „ „	£489

Approximate (nominal) value of reserves and other property resulting from the acquisition of the estates, as improved in some cases by expenditure	£3,642
--	--------

23. The Commissioner of the district remarks as follows in his report for the year 1906 :—

“ It is again my pleasing duty to record the marked improvement displayed by many of the allottees in the care and cultivation of their holdings. At no period was this more observable than during the terrible drought which prevailed at Carriacou from December, 1905, to June, 1906. Throughout this trying time one could not help noticing the marked contrast between the condition of the lands in the hands of industrious allottees and those gardens held under the metayer or share system. On the one hand there was always a show of something green, on the other the greatest picture of vegetative desolation imaginable. It is also gratifying to mention that the cultivation of Sea Island cotton may now be regarded as assured among peasant cultivators. Hitherto, although desirous of embarking on an industry

which, from the satisfactory results obtained by the few pioneers of 1905, and for pecuniary reasons, seemed specially attractive, the Carriacou peasant clung hard (and with good reason) to his catch crops of peas and corn, and was somewhat sceptical as to whether the cultivation of Sea Island cotton might not interfere with these, or entail a greater expenditure of care and labour than he was prepared to outlay. The experience of 1906 has, however, convinced the doubting ones that good results are obtained with Sea Island even under local conditions of culture, and further, that in the peculiarly adapted soil of Carriacou, Sea Island cotton is quite as hardy as its Marie Galante *confrere*."

24. Mention should also be made of a highly successful Cottagers' Show, the first ever attempted in the little island, which was held on 26th January. The Governor, accompanied by a large and representative party from Grenada, attended, opened the show, and distributed the prizes at its close. The Commissioner and his assistants and the peasant exhibitors all deserve credit for the encouraging results which attended this effort, which was praiseworthy from every point of view.

MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

25. Cane sugar of a low grade, rum, and ice are manufactured for local consumption. No returns of the quantity of sugar and ice made are available, but the sugar is quite insufficient for the wants of the labouring population, and large quantities have to be imported. As an excise duty is levied on rum made, the subjoined results in the last five years can be given:—

Year.				Quantity made.	Excise Duty paid.
				Gallons.	£
1902	...	...	...	45,054	11,853
1903	...	...	...	43,314	12,723
1904	...	...	...	46,911	11,812
1905	...	...	...	42,943	11,359
1906	...	...	...	35,978	10,555

26. It will be seen that both the quantity made and the amount of duty paid are diminishing. In the year under review two factors contributed to this result, viz., the reduced purchasing power of the lower classes consequent upon failure of the staple crop, and the large exodus of male labourers to the Canal Zone of the Panama Isthmus, but it is well known that, notwithstanding all efforts to combat it, smuggling of spirits is taking place, and this is proved by occasional important seizures made by the officers.

27. Fourteen distilleries of rum were at work in 1906, and there were altogether 160 premises licensed for the sale of spirits, which may be classified as follows :—

Wholesale licences	...	...	...	...	17
Retail licences	...	...	...	...	143
Revenue therefrom	...	...	...	£3,455	

28. On the 1st of January, 1906, an Inland Revenue Department was established, with Mr. John M. Adams, of the Inland Revenue Department of the United Kingdom, at its head, and a steady improvement in methods of control and management was effected during the year.

SHIPPING.

29. As was to be expected from the general shrinkage of trade during the year, the shipping tonnage entering and clearing in 1906 fell below the results of the immediately preceding years, and below the average of the five years 1902-6, as will be seen from the following figures :—

Year.				Tonnage.	
				Entered.	Cleared.
1902	...	...	...	287,000	290,035
1903	...	...	...	280,862	288,328
1904	...	...	...	316,223	316,068
1905	...	...	...	319,499	319,799
1906	...	...	...	297,725	297,809
Average	...	...	...	300,262	302,408

30. In Table J in the Appendix shipping details for the last two years are given and compared, but there is nothing therein of more than passing interest.

LEGISLATION.

31. Fifteen ordinances were passed by the Legislature in 1906, but three of them have not yet been brought into operation, viz.:—

The Primary Education Ordinance,
The Secondary Education Ordinance,
The Forestry Ordinance.

To the first two reference will be made under the proper head, the third has for its object the protection and conservation of the forests and water sources of the colony other than those on

the block of Crown lands in the centre of the island, for the conservation of which effectual provision was made by another ordinance of the year. This Forestry Ordinance has not yet commenced to operate because it was passed before arrangements for the executive officers thereunder were complete.

32. Of the ordinances of the year which were brought into operation the most important were :—

The Grand Etang Forest Reserve (alluded to in the preceding paragraph),
The Plant Protection Ordinance,
The Licences Ordinance.

The Plant Protection Ordinance aims at preventing the introduction into this colony of diseases of plants, and was passed upon the recommendation of, and in consultation with, the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies. The Licences Ordinance effected a much needed amendment of the law relating to licences, other than liquor or distillation licences or those for purchase of cocoa and nutmegs, the last law on the subject, passed in 1884, being both defective and out of date.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

33. A definite attempt was made during 1906 to amend the system of primary education, which was last revised in 1895, and which is admittedly unsuited to the real wants of the colony. During 1904-5 a committee of the Board of Education sat to consider a change of system, but its report was not actually taken into consideration for action, because the Governor on the 6th of June, 1905, laid a memorandum before the Board in which he made certain proposals for a more complete change than was contemplated by the Committee's report. These proposals found favour locally, and early in 1906 the Governor introduced into the Board a Bill to carry out his proposals. This Bill, after much discussion and extensive alteration, was then presented to the Legislative Council, and finally passed that body in June, the date of its commencement to operate being, however, postponed to the 1st of April, 1907. Its subsequent history is not, therefore, matter for review in connection with the year 1906, but it may be remarked that it has been found necessary in the current year to suspend its operation, and that, at the date of this report, another Bill is before the Legislative Council for consideration.

34. In Table K appended, the usual statistical details for 1906 are given and compared with those of the preceding year.

As will be seen from the decrease under every head, the transition state of affairs which obtained during 1906 had an undoubted effect upon the educational results of the year.

SECONDARY.

35. The system of secondary education may also be described as having been in the transitional stage during 1906. A Select Committee of the Legislative Council, which had been appointed in 1905, to consider the question, reported in December of that year that the existing governing bodies of the boys' and girls' schools in St. George's should be dissolved, and the management of secondary education in future controlled by Government, and conducted, in detail, by a board to be called the "Board of Directors of Secondary Education," to consist of 12 members. To give effect to their recommendations the Committee prepared and presented a Bill, which was passed by the Council on February 12th, 1906, but was not brought into operation, and is not yet in force, largely on account of difficulties connected with the provision of proper premises for the boys' school. In these circumstances no useful comment can be made on the usual statistics contained in Table L, except it be that the St. Joseph's Convent School, which is not affected by the new law or its suspension, continues to prosper.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

36. Some of the more important figures relating to the public charitable institutions in the year 1906 are tabulated hereunder:—

Institution.	Number at 1st January.	Admitted during the year.	Daily Average.	Cured.	Relieved or not improved.	Died.	Remaining at 31st December.	Cost of Institu- tion.
Colony Hospital	84	874	94.09	655	153	64	86	£ 2,309
Yaws "	50	199	58.4	165	—	2	82	687
St. Andrew's "	11	133	10.3	115	5	5	9	545
Carriacou "	16	152	13	128	25	3	12	542
Lunatic Asylum	129	53	135	24	8	22	128	1,973
Poor "	41	44	47.63	7	—	21	57	498

37. At the Colony Hospital 874 patients were admitted as compared with 708 in 1905, the cause being the abnormal prevalence of malarial fever in August—November. Two

hundred and sixty cases of it were admitted to the hospital, and treated by Dr. Leonard, the House Surgeon, by hypodermic injection of quinine with great success, only 9 deaths occurring out of 252 cases of the malignant sub-tertian variety of the disease, and in each case of death the patient was admitted practically moribund and only survived admission for a few hours.

38. The out-patients' department of the hospital work has increased enormously since its inception a few years ago, and in 1906 there were no less than 2,182 attendances recorded. The house surgeon attends to this department between the hours of 8 and 10 a.m. on week-days. Fifty-six paying patients were admitted to hospital during the year, and paid £107 altogether for their treatment. The cost of a patient at this institution per diem in 1906 was about 1s. 3d. The Colony Drug Store, opened on 1st April, 1905, for the supply of drugs at cost price to Government institutions, worked most successfully, and enabled considerable savings to be effected under this item of expenditure.

39. The Yaws Hospital, which is practically a detached ward of the Colony Hospital, also showed good results for the year, and the buildings were thoroughly repaired and improvements effected both in them and in the grounds. A patient costs about 8d. a day.

40. There were 133 admissions to the St. Andrew's Hospital as compared with 108 in 1905, and the daily cost of a patient was 2s. 2½d., which is much higher than in any other institution of the Colony. 8,438 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, of which 2,768 were for "labourers," and paid for at the shilling rate. Structural alterations in the dispensary, effecting much needed improvement, were carried out.

41. At the Carriacou Hospital 152 cases were admitted, and the daily cost of a patient was 1s. 8½d. 3,575 prescriptions were compounded at the dispensary, of which 938 were paid for. Work on the new Bellevue Hospital proceeded, and the new buildings, which are perhaps the best ever provided for a district hospital in the West Indies, will be occupied in the current year.

42. There were 53 admissions to the lunatic asylum in 1906, of whom 10 were from St. Lucia and three from St. Vincent, and the daily average was 135, which is in excess of the accommodation, but during the year space for 10 beds was added by converting two small store-rooms into a ward. Of the 128 patients remaining on at the end of the year 76 were from Grenada, 27 from St. Lucia, and 25 from St. Vincent.

43. Continued improvement was effected at the Poor Asylum (or Home for Incurables), and, owing to the continuous greater demand for accommodation for males, eight extra beds for them were provided, the capacity of the building being now

for 38 males and 20 females, and it is always full. There were 44 admissions in the year, and the cost per head per diem was about 7*d.*

SAVINGS BANK.

44. Financial conditions in the Colony in 1906 are clearly illustrated by the savings bank operations during the year, as shown in the subjoined tabular statement for the last five years. As will be seen, the number of depositors and the balance to their credit at the close of the year remained practically stationary, deposits and withdrawals, both of diminished amount, balancing each other, and merely representing a temporary movement of the money in the bank.

Year.			Number of Depositors at 31st December.	Amount of Deposits (including interest capitalised).	Amount of Withdrawals.	Balance to Credit of Depositors at 31st December.
				£	£	£
1902	...	...	1,847	9,184	9,378	11,417
1903	...	...	1,544	7,480	7,674	11,658
1904	...	...	1,465	9,279	8,416	12,790
1905	...	...	1,470	8,105	8,773	12,394
1906	...	...	1,475	7,875	7,889	12,379

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

POLICE.

45. The police force consists of two officers (a chief and a sub-inspector), six sergeants, five corporals, and 58 privates. It receives a semi-military training, and is armed with the Martini-Enfield rifle. In 1906 musketry training, which had been suspended, was resumed at a new and fairly satisfactory range on the Queen's Park, near the principal town, which had just been completed, and good results were obtained. The force at headquarters was inspected on 25th April by Brigadier-General Caulfield, commanding the troops in Jamaica.

PRISONS.

46. The committals in 1906 were 209 in number, or only one more than in 1905, and of these 199 were from Grenada courts, seven from St. Lucia, and three from St. Vincent. The daily average was 61 (56 males, 4·3 females, and ·7 juveniles), of which 34·3 were Grenada convicts, 19·8 St. Lucia, and 6·9

St. Vincent. The reduction of prisoners from Grenada, which has been commented upon in previous reports, therefore, continues, as the following daily averages in past years will show :—

1894 (the record year)...	...	...	...	84
19 4 (ten years later) ...	...	...	...	50
1905	...	...	...	41
1906	...	...	...	34

47. The Richmond Hill Prison is a most satisfactory institution, and credit is due to the Superintendent, Mr. Heels, for his untiring efforts to keep it in that condition. Its gross cost in 1906 was £1,342, against which should be set the payments from St. Lucia and St. Vincent for maintenance of their convicts at the rate of £1 per month per head, amounting altogether to £308. The official estimate of the nominal value of the work done by the prisoners during the year is £1,328, and the average cost of a prisoner for the last ten years is £22 15s. per annum, of which food contributes £5 2s. 6d. per annum.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

48. The Attorney-General reports of the statistics relating to crime in 1906 that they were "exceptionally satisfactory, for on the one hand they prove that a larger mass than usual of petty charges and minor offences was subjected to magisterial enquiry and correction, whilst on the other hand they clearly show that crime in general had diminished very considerably." The usual comparative statement is inserted in the Appendix, Table M.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

49. For the first time since an official record of vital statistics has been kept in the colony, it becomes necessary in respect of the year 1906 to take notice of emigration. Of permanent emigrants from Grenada there have hitherto been so few that it was not worth while to keep a record of them, but the commencement of activity on the Panama Canal under the United States Government has proved a strong attraction to the labourers of the Colony, who are beginning to feel the increased stringency of local conditions under the pressure of population and the now restricted area of cultivable lands.

50. During 1905 a few individuals left for the Canal Zone, but it was not until the 4th of January, 1906, that the first body of labourers departed, and steps were at once taken by the Government to establish a record of those going and returning. Up to 31st December, 1,534 had left and 813 returned, making a net deduction of 721 from the population. Many of those who have not returned have died or may die, but it may be expected that only a few of those who survive will eventually remain away.

from the Colony altogether, the ruling idea of those who leave being to acquire as much money as possible on the Isthmus,* and return with it to Grenada. The effect on the Colony's population will not, therefore, be a very large permanent reduction.

51. Allowing for this unwonted emigration, the estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1906, was 69,784, being an increase of 6,346 since the Census of 1901. The death rate per thousand was 24·53, which, as in last year, was above the average of the preceding ten years (21·33), a result largely attributable to improved registration of deaths since January, 1905; and the birth-rate was only 38·54, the preceding ten years' average being 41·52. This is perhaps due to the large exodus of male labourers to Panama.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

52. The year was remarkable for the abnormal prevalence of malarial fever, and it must be recorded with regret that some of the returning emigrants from Panama brought back with them a far more severe type of malarial fever than has hitherto prevailed in this Colony, and this naturally spread in those low-lying districts on the sea-board where the *anopheles* mosquito is found. Diarrhoea, dysentery, and enteritis were also very troublesome, as the subjoined statement of the principal causes of death in 1906, compared with the preceding six years' average, shows :—

Disease.			Average for 6 years 1900-1905.	1906.
Diarrhoea	...	...	135	204
Dysentery	...	...	126	135
Fevers	...	...	98	175
Enteritis	...	...	102	190
Phthisis	...	...	66	73
Bronchitis	...	...	32	44
Pneumonia	...	...	26	36
Influenza	...	...	14	12
Whooping cough	...	...	16	—
Cardiac disease	...	...	104	90

53. There was an outbreak in the St. John's district of the usual type of mild small-pox, which first appeared in the Colony in 1903, and it became necessary to open an Isolation Station there in June, which was closed in October. Fifty cases of the disease altogether occurred in this district, and there were also two cases in St. Andrew's, which did not spread. There were, of course, no deaths from this cause, as the disease is quite innocuous.

* Between 27th July, 1906, when a money order system with the Canal Zone commenced to operate, and 31st December, the sum of £2,228 was remitted to the Colony by emigrants in post office orders alone; large sums also came in greenbacks and bank orders, but of these there is no record.

As the rapidly increasing amount used gives evidence, the British Postal Order system is much appreciated, and in July a further reduction of the local poundage paid for them was effected.

TELEPHONES.

58. On the 1st January the Telephone Department became a sub-department of the Public Works Department, and the service was satisfactorily maintained during the year under review. An improvement, affecting other details of administration than the telephone service, was made by affixing metal numbers to the poles on the main roads, so that any spot thereon can now be indicated with facility by reference to the number of the nearest pole.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

59. There is no military force in the Colony, Legislative provision exists for the establishment of a volunteer force and of volunteer reserve corps, and the Imperial Government has considerably provided the rifles for such forces, but none has yet been started. The Police Force is maintained on a semi-military footing, and a good rifle range was provided in 1906 close to the principal town.

GENERAL REMARKS.

60. Two old and respected public servants, who had recently retired on pension, died during the year—Dr. P. F. Macleod, I.S.O., late Medical Superintendent of the Asylums, and Dr. Paulin Orgias, late Colonial Surgeon.

61. On the 4th of August the appointment of Mr. Ralph C. Williams, C.M.G., Resident Commissioner of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, to be Governor of the Windward Islands was announced, but His Excellency did not assume the office until January, 1907. On the 15th of October Sir Robert Llewelyn left the Colony on leave of absence, and retired on pension in December. The Windward Islands Government was administered *ad interim* from St. Lucia by Mr. P. C. Cork, C.M.G., the Administrator of that Colony.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

Grenada,

— 31st August, 1907.

STATEMENT of ASSETS and LIABILITIES

Public Debt at 31st March, 1907	...	...	£123,670	0	0
Accumulated Sinking Fund at 31st March, 1907			19,807	1	8

WM. CUDDEFORD,
Auditor.

2nd July, 1907.

GREENADA, 1906-7.

A.

of the COLONY at 31st MARCH, 1907.

ASSETS.				
	£	s.	d.	
Cash in Treasury Chest				£ 426 2 0
" Colonial Bank on Current Account.				3,758 8 5
Colony's Reserve Fund—				
Invested by Crown Agents ...				5,242 11 9
Savings Bank—				
Invested by Crown Agents ...	9,000	0	0	
" in British Guiana Bonds	500	0	0	
On Deposit in Colonial Bank ...	2,500	0	0	12,000 0 0
Crown Agents for the Colonies—				
On Current Account	301	0	1	
Remittances in transit	5,011	4	1	5,312 4 2
Imprest Balances				163 8 8
Advances representing amounts due to the Colony—				
Loans to Dist. Boards from General Revenue.	359	0	0	
Government of St. Vincent ...	239	17	11	
" " St. Lucia	454	4	6	
Governor-in-Chief's Office Fund ...		0	12 3	
Other Advances	1,106	4	10	2,159 19 6
St. George's Waterworks Extension Loan.				4,000 0 0
Gouyave Water Supply Advance ...				1,342 10 8
Sauteurs Waterworks Loan				162 13 8
Carriacou Land Settlement Fund ...				5,038 16 9
Carriacou Jetty Advance				928 16 4
Suspense Account				86 13 4
Arrears of Revenue—				
Interest on Loans to District Boards.	211	10	1	
Sinking Funds " " "	46	6	9	257 16 10
Total Assets				40,880 2 6

Treasury, Grenada,
19th June, 1907.

N. LOCKHART,
Treasurer.

TABLE B.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE for the Years
ended 31st MARCH, 1906 and 1907.

Head of Revenue.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	35,756	36,219	463	—
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue.	27,006	26,587	—	419
Fees of Office, &c.	1,662	2,253	591	—
Post Office	1,912	2,123	211	—
Telephones	1,459	1,513	54	—
Water Supplies	260	201	—	59
Rent of Government Property...	444	620	176	—
Refund of Interest and Sinking Funds.	680	1,007	327	—
Miscellaneous Receipts	303	115	—	188
Land Sales	42	573	531	—
Total Local Revenue	69,524	71,211	2,353	666
Imperial Grant in aid of Agricultural Department.	430	575	145	—
Total Revenue	69,954	71,786	2,498	666

TABLE C.
COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the EXPENDITURE for the
Years ended 31st MARCH, 1906 and 1907.

Head of Expenditure.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Charges on Account of Public Debt.	6,198	6,197	—	1
Pensions	2,917	2,546	—	371
The Governor	1,930	2,080	150	—
Colonial Secretary	1,641	1,685	44	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	183	57	—	126
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank.	4,731	4,213	—	518
Inland Revenue Department ...	317	1,298	981	—
Post Office	1,858	1,710	—	148
Audit Department	561	597	36	—

TABLE C—cont.

Head of Expenditure.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Port and Marine... ..	—	273	273	—
Legal Departments	4,823	4,460	—	363
Police Department	4,931	4,783	—	148
Prisons	1,029	967	—	62
Medical Department	3,952	3,602	—	350
Hospitals and Asylums	5,379	5,449	70	—
Education... ..	7,176	6,450	—	726
Ditto Special Expenditure...	30	190	160	—
Ecclesiastical	444	444	—	—
Charitable	559	631	72	—
Telephone Department	1,280	1,360	80	—
Ditto Special Expenditure	245	547	302	—
Carriacou District	863	920	57	—
Water Supplies	249	295	46	—
Miscellaneous Services	4,916	4,761	—	155
Agricultural Department	413	474	61	—
Public Works Department	1,208	1,370	162	—
Public Works Recurrent :—				
(1) Roads and Bridges	8,888	9,021	133	—
(2) Other Recurrent Works...	1,955	1,724	—	231
Public Works Extraordinary	2,908	1,716	—	1,192
Total Expenditure from } Colonial Funds.	71,584	69,820	2,627	4,391
Agricultural Department (paid from Imperial Funds).	384	559	175	—
Total Expenditure	71,968	70,379	2,802	4,391

TABLE D.

REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the TOWN (now District*)
AUTHORITIES for the last FIVE YEARS.

	Revenue.					Expenditure.				
	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. George's	3,189	3,152	3,296	3,435	3,812	2,861	3,251	3,282	3,380	3,608
Greenville (St. Andrew's) ..	944	1,053	990	1,235	2,396	889	871	1,175	1,348	2,166
Sauteurs (St. Patrick's) ..	738	619	600	619	1,484	650	471	752	615	1,545
Victoria (St. Mark's)...	307	309	859	339	625	344	307	318	502	594
Gouyave (St. John's)...	680	599	596	771	1,380	548	544	741	829	1,325
St. David's	—	—	—	287	765	—	—	—	287	765
Hillsborough	124	85	83	28	89	97	82	105	87	92

* Since October, 1905.

TABLE E.
CLASSIFIED RETURN OF TRADE STATISTICS for the last FIVE YEARS.

Classes.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
I. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics	£ 110,627	£ 100,825	£ 119,178	£ 116,892	£ 107,635	£ 298,974	£ 266,595	£ 309,776	£ 276,312	£ 195,239
II. Raw materials	23,887	23,328	22,391	20,204	16,264	6,591	8,518	10,389	4,642	9,969
III. Manufactured articles	104,241	109,381	110,861	93,714	92,423	2,027	1,985	1,601	2,052	2,614
IV. Coin and bullion	353	1,906	3,839	6,446	7,126	3,010	6,467	—	950	2,327
Totals	239,108	235,440	256,269	237,256	223,448	310,602	283,565	321,766	283,955	210,149

TABLE F.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of CHIEF IMPORTS in the
last Two YEARS.

Chief Articles Imported.	Value.	
	1905.	1906.
CLASS I.—	£	£
Live animals	2,612	814
Bread of all kinds (<i>i.e.</i> , biscuits)	3,937	3,412
Butter	2,003	2,026
Cheese	1,114	948
Fish (dried or preserved, including salmon and mackerel).	15,868	12,362
Flour (wheaten)	31,558	28,928
Lard	1,385	1,713
Malt liquor	1,439	1,333
Meal (corn)	726	945
Meat (salted or preserved), including bacon and hams.	9,132	8,609
Medicinal extracts and preparations	3,427	2,732
Oats	3,699	3,999
Oil (olive and others for cooking)	2,699	3,302
Oleomargarine, &c.	3,573	3,467
Rice	6,311	6,513
Spirits	4,333	3,581
Sugar (refined)	3,147	2,489
Do. (muscovado)	4,768	4,603
Wines	1,285	1,000
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes	2,830	2,769
Fresh vegetables ("ground provisions")	1,167	2,538
Stockfeed	1,680	1,523
Pease	1,275	1,330
CLASS II.—		
Coal	842	1,382
Leather	840	225
Manures	3,796	2,611
Petroleum oil... ..	3,431	3,465
Timber and shingles	10,799	8,239
CLASS III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	6,494	10,567
Textiles	44,658	51,403
Rope and cordage	1,081	1,817
Metal manufactures	13,109	13,991
Books	1,002	858
Soap	3,867	3,174
Stationery	950	1,267
Cement	870	1,000
Earthen- and glass-ware	2,445	2,265
Furniture	1,733	1,934
Leather (manufactured)—		
Boots and shoes	3,374	4,393
Other	2,398	3,779

TABLE G.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of PRINCIPAL ARTICLES of
COLONIAL PRODUCE EXPORTED in the last FIVE YEARS.

Produce Exported.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Cocoa	268,211	230,957	272,226	243,790	166,538
Spices	25,522	31,583	33,767	27,992	24,941
Cotton and cotton seed ...	4,069	5,345	8,521	3,365	8,003
Live stock	1,082	1,186	1,356	1,319	1,524
Firewood	249	285	400	221	156
Fruit	713	249	430	304	265
Poultry	665	560	443	409	289
Turtle and turtle shell ...	152	235	381	343	306
Kola nuts	231	210	367	329	358
Coffee	25	238	65	3	4
Rum	70	—	2	32	1
Wool	113	22	51	15	31
Ice	—	399	260	304	113
Logwood	30	8	—	45	—

TABLE H.
DIRECTION OF TRADE in the last FIVE YEARS.

	Imports					Exports.				
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	105,425	112,138	117,292	100,082	86,631	265,936	201,799	209,310	181,970	119,902
British Colonies	50,835	43,860	57,855	64,557	67,242	10,528	12,244	5,316	7,049	7,245
Foreign Countries	82,843	79,442	81,122	72,617	69,575	34,137	69,522	107,140	94,936	83,002
Totals	239,103	235,440	256,269	237,256	223,448	310,601	283,565	321,766	283,955	210,149

TABLE I.
TRADE with FOREIGN COUNTRIES in the last FIVE YEARS.

Foreign Countries.	Imports.					Exports.				
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
United States of America ...	£ 80,317	£ 76,763	£ 76,081	£ 69,526	£ 66,897	£ 26,451	£ 51,971	£ 61,126	£ 58,995	£ 44,680
France and French Colonies ...	549	478	1,146	422	796	6,356	16,819	44,906	33,804	35,859
Holland and Dutch Colonies...	1,248	931	2,297	1,155	1,059	437	61	527	1,884	1,547
Denmark and Danish Colonies	41	43	54	69	75	18	—	13	5	3
Venezuela ...	416	296	784	933	354	876	671	475	143	800
Germany ...	226	757	667	390	379	—	—	—	4	107
Other Countries ...	51	174	93	121	15	—	—	93	—	6
Totals ...	82,848	79,442	81,122	72,616	69,575	34,138	69,522	107,140	94,935	83,002

TABLE J.
DETAILS OF SHIPPING in the last TWO YEARS.

Nationality.	Tonnage Entered.						Tonnage Cleared.					
	1905.			1906.			1905.			1906.		
	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.	Steamers.	Sailing Vessels.	Total.
British ...	308,577	9,796	318,373	284,385	10,299	294,684	308,577	10,096	318,673	284,394	10,482	294,876
Foreign ...	—	1,126	1,126	1,331	1,710	3,041	—	1,126	1,126	1,331	1,602	2,933
Viz. :—												
U. S. of America ...	—	—	—	1,278	—	1,278	—	—	—	1,278	—	1,278
Holland ...	—	562	562	—	922	922	—	562	562	—	922	922
Venezuela ...	—	480	480	—	788	788	—	480	480	—	680	680
France ...	—	84	84	53	—	53	—	84	84	53	—	53

TABLE K.
PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Description of School.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars on Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
Government Schools ..	9	1,147	1,031	2,178	1,006	£ 74	£ 1,219	£ —	£ 1,292
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—									
Roman Catholic ..	21	2,182	2,466	4,648	2,141	73	2,336	—	2,409
Anglican ..	9	956	858	1,814	984	108	1,082	—	1,189
Wesleyan ..	4	581	474	1,055	570	45	622	—	668
Church of Scotland..	2	222	180	402	166	9	166	—	176
Totals for 1906 ..	45	5,088	5,009	10,097	4,867	309	5,425	—	5,794
Totals for 1905 ..	45	5,319	5,141	10,460	5,405	349	5,947	—	6,197
Increase in 1906..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decrease in 1906..	—	231	132	363	538	40	422	—	468

TABLE L.
SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Description of School.	Number of Scholars on Roll.				Income.			Expenditure.
	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Average Attendance.	School Fees.	Government Contributions.	Voluntary Contributions.	
Grant-in-Aid Schools :—								
Grenada Grammar School ..	27	—	27	24	£ 73	£ 468	£ —	£ 501
Victoria Girls' High School ..	—	23	23	22	90	25	66	199
St. Joseph's Convent School (Girls) ..	6	60	72	—	145	100	70	315
Totals for 1906 ..	33	89	122	46	308	593	136	1,015
Totals for 1905 ..	52	84	136	54	410	418	126	1,025
Increase in 1906 ..	—	5	—	—	—	175	10	—
Decrease in 1906 ..	19	—	14	8	102	—	—	10

GREENADA, 1906-7.

TABLE M.
CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

	Average 02-1904.	1905.	1906.
Magistrates' Courts—			
Convictions... ..	1,346	1,452	1,496
Acquittals	331	352	330
Discharged	562	752	436
Committed for trial at the Supreme Court	48	42	23
Total number of persons brought before the Magistrates.	2,287	2,598	2,285
Supreme Court—			
Convictions	30	24	11
Acquittals	8	15	9
Not prosecuted	8	12	4
Total number of persons brought before the Court.	46	51	24
Nature of offences for which convictions were obtained—			
Offences against the person	318	339	450
Prædial larceny	68	79	118
Other offences against property	98	101	83
Other offences	891	957	856
	1,375	1,476	1,507

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905-1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate...	"
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon... ..	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Wei-hai-wei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate...	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 590.

GRENADA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 546.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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No. 590.

GRENADA.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 546.)

THE ACTING-GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

St. Lucia,
13th November, 1908.

Forwarded.

P. C. CORK,
Acting Governor.The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.Government Office,
Grenada,
31st October, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward my Blue Book Report for this Colony, in respect of the year 1907.

2. The delay in submitting these annual returns has been due, firstly, to my having to deal with them and other returns in arrear since my return from leave at end of July, and, secondly, to the fact that the financial returns were not in my hands until the end of September.

3. In preparing the report, I have paid careful attention to the instructions, and trust that it may be found to meet requirements.

4. As this Colony comprises not only the Island of Grenada but the smaller island of Carriacou and other adjacent cays and islets, and as the Dependency of Carriacou is daily becoming of more importance, I have thought it best to send a map, not only of Grenada but of Carriacou, particularly as the references now necessarily made in the annual report to the Land Settlement Scheme and cotton cultivation in that island will be better understood by reference to a map of it.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.His Honour
The Administrator of the
Windward Islands, St. Lucia.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1907.

FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year ended 31st March, 1908, was the largest yet received in Grenada, amounting to £79,871 altogether, of which £501 was the Imperial grant in aid of agriculture, and the balance, £79,370, revenue from local sources. This satisfactory result was due to the reaping of a fairly-good cocoa crop, accompanied by abnormally high prices for that staple, and also to the inflow of remittances from emigrants to the Canal Zone of the Panama Isthmus. The plentiful circulation of money thus induced, led to a large increase of imported goods, and the revision of the tariff of import duties, effected in 1905, was thereby enabled for the first time to produce its anticipated effect.

2. Following is a statement of the revenue for the year, classified under its usual heads:—

	£
Customs	44,962
Licences, Excise, and internal revenue	27,631
Fees of office, &c.	1,915
Post Office	1,562
Telephones	1,500
Water supplies	289
Rent of Government property	529
Refunds of interest and sinking funds	844
Miscellaneous receipts	114
Land sales	24
Total local revenue	79,370
Imperial grant for Agricultural Department ...	501
Total revenue	£79,871

3. The Customs revenue exceeded the estimate by £9,362, and the receipts of the preceding year by £8,743. Head 2 was £1,044 in excess of that year's results, in consequence of the operation of the Licences Ordinance of 1906 and better collection of the revenue thereunder, and also of collection of tax arrears. Post Office receipts fell off by £561, the preceding year's revenue having been inflated by sale of new issues of stamps. Land sales revenue was less than in 1906-7 by £549, owing to the sale of a valuable escheated property in that year.

4. The expenditure was kept well in hand during the year, and fell within the estimate by £1,083, being also £1,996 less

than in the preceding year. The details, under the usual heads, are as follows:—

	£
Charges on account of debt...	6,197
Pensions	2,482
The Governor and Legislature	2,491
Colonial Secretary's Department	1,675
Treasury, Customs, and Savings Bank	3,934
Inland Revenue Department	1,249
Post Office Department	2,323
Audit Department	613
Port and marine	294
Legal Departments	4,211
Police	4,908
Prisons	887
Medical	3,587
Hospitals and asylums	5,548
Education	6,532
Do. special expenditure	75
Ecclesiastical	444
Charitable	610
Telephone Department	1,277
Do. do. special expenditure	140
Carriacou District	936
St. Paul's and Richmond Hill water supply	181
Miscellaneous Services	4,529
Agricultural Department	413
Public Works Department	1,312
Public Works Recurrent—	
(1) Roads and bridges	8,380
(2) Other recurrent work	1,592
Public Works Extraordinary	1,084
Total expenditure from Colonial funds	67,904
Agricultural Department (share paid from Imperial funds)	479
Total expenditure	£68,383

5. The only increase, as compared with the preceding year, which is worthy of notice, is that of £613 under Post Office, due to the larger subsidy now payable for transport of inter-Colonial mails. Decreases of £641, under Roads and Bridges, and of £632, under Public Works Extraordinary, are attributable to restriction of the road grants and to the mild weather conditions of the year in the first case, and to abstention from important works during the year in the second.

6. The revenue and expenditure in the last five financial years were:—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
1903-4	...	70,260	...	70,101
1904-5	...	69,993	...	69,510
1905-6	...	69,954	...	71,968
1906-7	...	71,786	...	70,379
1907-8	...	79,871	...	68,383

7. The pecuniary assets of the Colony at 31st March, 1908, amounted to £56,392, and the liabilities at that date to £22,464, so that the surplus of assets was £33,928, being an increase of £11,606 on the surplus with which the financial year opened. Of this amount £5,406 was held by the Crown Agents, on investment, by way of reserve fund, and this has since been increased by £10,000, remitted to them in the current year for that purpose.

8. The loan debt of the Colony is £123,670, in 4 per cent. inscribed stock, and the sinking fund, in the hands of the Crown Agents for its redemption between the years 1917 and 1942, amounted at 31st March, 1908, to £21,777.

9. The revenue and expenditure of the District Boards in the year 1907-8 were as follows:—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
St. George's Board	...	3,802	...	3,678
St. Andrew's Board	...	2,450	...	2,301
St. Patrick's Board	...	1,553	...	1,236
St. John's Board	...	1,394	...	1,376
St. Mark's Board	...	596	...	602
St. David's Board	...	681	...	681

10. Their loan debts (all due to the Colony) at 31st March, 1908, amounted to £16,935, as under:—

				£
St. George's	...	...	...	9,981
St. Andrew's	...	...	...	1,030
St. Patrick's	...	...	...	1,220
St. John's	...	...	...	3,250
St. Mark's	...	...	...	1,454

In the current year the Jetty Loan of the St. Patrick's Board will be written off (£1,100), the sinking fund contributions, at the rate of 5 per cent., which that Board elected to pay when the loan was made in 1890, having in effect extinguished the debt. The further loan of £1,000, made in 1907 from general revenue to the St. George's Board for extension of the water works, will also be brought to account this year. Sinking fund contributions and interest on these loans are regularly paid to the Colonial Treasury by the several Boards,

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

11. The total imports and exports in the last five years were, in value, as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1903	235,440	283,565
1904	256,269	321,766
1905	237,256	283,955
1906	233,448	210,149
1907	288,665	417,299

12. The imports of 1907, therefore, exceeded those of 1906 by £65,217, the principal increases appearing under manufactured articles, £23,830, and live animals, food, drinks, &c., £23,314; while the quantity of coin, bullion, &c., imported, £22,584, was £15,458 more than in 1906, and largely in excess of the average.

13. Following is a comparative statement of the value of the principal articles imported in the last two years:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Class I.—		
Bread of all kinds (biscuits)	3,412	4,446
Butter	2,026	2,559
Fish (dried or preserved)	12,362	14,146
Flour (wheaten)	28,928	33,998
Meat (salted and preserved)	8,609	10,747
Medicinal extracts and preparations	2,732	3,215
Oats	3,999	5,107
Oil (olive, and other for cooking)	3,302	4,291
Oleomargarine and butterine	3,467	4,246
Rice	6,513	7,078
Spirits	3,581	4,369
Sugar:—		
Refined	2,489	2,725
Muscovado	4,603	8,355
Tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes... ..	2,769	3,662
Class II.—		
Coal	1,382	2,480
Manures	2,611	3,167
Petroleum oil	3,465	3,728
Timber and shingles	8,239	8,719
Class III.—		
Wearing apparel and haberdashery	10,567	11,229
Textiles	51,403	51,150
Metal manufactures	13,991	15,290
Earthen and glassware	2,265	3,078
Furniture	1,934	3,310
Leather (manufactured):—		
Boots and shoes	4,393	5,407
Other	3,779	2,727
Soap	3,174	3,914

Class IV.—	1906.	1907
	£	£
Silver coin	3,060	16,600

14. Of the imports for the year, 43 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 27 per cent. from British Colonies, and 30 per cent. from foreign countries; the corresponding percentages for 1906 were 39, 30, and 31, respectively. The proportion of foreign imports has fallen from 35 per cent. of the total in 1902 to 30 per cent. The bulk of the foreign import trade is, of course, with the United States of America, which absorbed 91 per cent. of it in 1907, the preceding year's percentage being 90. It consists principally of foodstuffs and petroleum.

15. It will serve no useful purpose to give or comment upon the figures appearing as representing the trade with Canada. According to the returns it is rapidly diminishing since the withdrawal of the subsidised line of steamers, as was to be expected. At the same time a certain quantity of Canadian products reaches the Colony through New York, and this the returns do not disclose.

16. As will be seen from the figures given in paragraph 11, the value of the exports in 1907 reached the unprecedented figure of £417,299, being nearly double the value of the preceding year, and largely in excess of the average. This result is due to the exceptionally high prices realised by cocoa, as well as to the fact that the crop of that staple and of nutmegs was fairly satisfactory.

17. The following values of the chief exports of Colonial produce in the last two years show the position clearly:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Cocoa	166,538	361,128
Spices (chiefly nutmegs)	24,941	35,954
Cotton and cotton seed...	8,003	7,731
Live animals	1,524	1,289
Timber (mahogany and cedar)...	603	1,692

18. The shipment of £2,556 in gold coins to the United States of America, appearing in the returns, deserves to be noticed as a most unusual occurrence. The cause is well known.

19. The statistics, showing the direction of the Colony's export trade in the year under review, contain a factor of unreliability which makes it impossible to indicate with accuracy the amount of the foreign trade. There exists an annually increasing practice of shipping cocoa to Havre on bills of lading *optional* for London, and it is not possible to ascertain how much of these shipments is actually diverted

to the United Kingdom from the Continent. In 1907, the figures of exports to France expand from £35,869, in 1906, to no less than £133,655, while those to the United Kingdom do not exhibit the marked advance which was to be expected from the known facts.

20. The only comment which may safely be made on the statistics, showing the direction of export trade in 1907, is that the volume of such trade with the United States of America nearly doubled itself in the year, the figures being £44,680 in 1906, and £95,063 in 1907. This is due almost entirely to the increasing market for the Grenada cocoa and spices in the States, the value shipped there in 1907 being:—Cocoa £85,470, and spices £6,856; in 1896 the corresponding figures were £4,752 for cocoa, and £1,276 for spices.

AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

21. *Cocoa*.—The planters of Grenada in 1907 reaped the reward of their labours and a measure of compensation for other disappointing seasons in the highly satisfactory prices realised by the output of their plantations. The year opened with good prices in the London market (75s. to 82s. per cwt.), and these gradually rose higher and higher, until in September the record price, 119s. per cwt., was attained. If a thoroughly satisfactory crop had at the same time been picked, the beneficial result to the Colony, marked as it actually was, would have reached the maximum. The crop, however, was only 60,089 bags in the year ended 30th September, 1907, and this, although 5,708 bags in excess of the previous year, was much below that of the record year, 1904, when 67,225 bags were reaped.

22. The development of improved methods of cultivation and curing, which was referred to in the Annual Report for 1905, continues to receive much attention. Apparatus for drying the beans by hot air, instead of relying on the fickle sunlight, is being steadily provided on all of the best plantations, and the machine manufactured by John Gordon & Co., London, continues the prime favourite, and, apparently, deservedly so. Another move in the right direction is that taken by the Agricultural and Commercial Society, with funds granted for the purpose by Government, in giving prizes to peasant proprietors for the best kept and cultivated holdings of cocoa. The first prizes were distributed at Gouyave on March 21st by the Honourable C. M. Browne, C.M.G., the President of the Society, and the results were most gratifying. Operations in this direction are being extended this year.

23. *Spices*.—In quantity, the nutmeg crop for the year ended 30th September was a distinct improvement on that of the preceding year, amounting to 7,284 barrels and 735 half-barrels, as compared with 5,393 barrels and 602 half-barrels in 1906. Prices, however, were not satisfactory, and there is no evidence of an expanding market for this product at

present. In methods of cultivation there seems little, if anything, left to be desired, and a well-kept nutmeg grove, such as that at Belvidere (to mention the largest in the island) is one of the most satisfying sights in the Tropics.

24. *Cotton*.—The cotton crop fell below that of 1906, 934 bales of lint and 4,742 bags of seed being exported in the year ended 30th September, 1907, against 1,019 bales and 5,692 bags in the previous year. This is not surprising in view of the deficient rainfall at Carriacou, the seat of this industry, in 1907, when only $33\frac{1}{2}$ inches were recorded, or less than one-half of the preceding year's record. Improvements in cultivation can be noticed in connection with this product also, following upon the success of the Land Settlement Scheme in the Dependency, the example set by recent opening up of some of the large estates there, and the energetic efforts of the Commissioner, Mr. Whitfield Smith. Sea Island cotton is being steadily taken up by the new class of peasant proprietors there, who are becoming assured that it can be successfully and profitably cultivated in the island.

CARRIACOU LAND SETTLEMENT SCHEME.

25. In regard to this, the fourth year of its working, it is again possible to record continued success of this scheme, and the subjoined figures will show that its pecuniary details are satisfactory:—

	£
Total expenditure on the scheme to 31st December,	
1907	8,448
Received in cash up to that date	4,101
Balance due, Colonial Treasury	£4,347
	£ £
Total value of lots surveyed for sale	7,466
Cash received for lots sold	3,136
Balance due by allottees, payable by instal-	
ments bearing interest at 5 per cent.	4,038
Value of unsold lots	292
	7,466
	£
Approximate value of reserves and other pro-	
perty resulting from the purchase of the estates	3,679

26. In his Annual Report on the Dependency, the Commissioner thus refers to the scheme: " . . . the people continue to make steady progress in the improvement of their holdings. One of the most prominent features, which marks the elevating results and success of the Land Scheme, is the large number of substantial cottages which have recently come

into existence on the lands of allottees. These are neat wooden structures of two or three rooms, often with glass windows and painted roofs; they stand out in marked contrast to the type of 'shanty' usually affected by the peasant cultivator of Grenada, and afford another instance of the remarkable thriftiness of these islanders. The cultivation of Sea Island cotton has now taken firm hold amongst the allottees, and most of them have plots, varying in size from half-acre to one acre, planted with this variety."

27. A work of some importance to the future of the little island was commenced during the year and brought near to completion. This was the construction of a jetty in Hillsborough Bay for the landing and shipment of goods and produce, and for the safety of passengers, hitherto exposed at times to much danger in consequence of the heavy surf which frequently breaks on the beach. Unlike the similar jetties in Grenada this structure is of steel and iron, and it is hoped will prove permanent. The cost, about £1,500, is being borne by the Colonial revenue, and while it is anticipated that the dues levied on shipments inwards and outwards will provide a sum, annually, equivalent to interest and sinking fund contributions on that amount, it may also be mentioned that the yearly saving resulting from better road administration in the Dependency since 1904 will of itself recoup the outlay in about eight years.

MANUFACTURES.

28. Thirteen distilleries were at work in 1907, and the quantity of the rum manufactured thereat was 46,675 gallons, or 10,697 gallons more than in 1906, while the excise duty on the amount consumed realised £11,006, as compared with £10,555 in 1906. There were 160 dealers licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors in the year, 17 being for wholesale and 143 for retail dealing; the revenue from these licences amounted to £3,455.

SHIPPING.

29. The total tonnage of shipping inwards and outwards in the last five years was as follows:—

						Tons.
1903	...	...	...	...	...	569,190
1904	...	...	...	...	...	632,291
1905	...	...	...	...	...	639,348
1906	...	...	...	...	...	595,534
1907	...	...	...	...	...	513,902

30. In the year under review, 99 per cent. of this was British shipping, and this is the general rule. The slight shrinkage of the total volume of shipping in the last two years is doubtless due to the discontinuance of the call here by the subsidised Canadian steamers.

LEGISLATION.

31. Of the 14 Ordinances passed by the Legislature in 1907, the most important were those "to validate a marriage between a man and his deceased wife's sister," and "to consolidate and amend the law relating to public primary education." To the latter reference will be made in its proper place, the former keeps pace with Imperial legislation on the subject, and remedies a long-standing defect in the marriage law.

EDUCATION.

PRIMARY.

32. Although the new system, created by the Ordinance above referred to, did not actually come into operation until 1908, it is possible to record that definite legislative action was taken in 1907, putting an end to the state of transition which has existed since 1905 in regard to primary education in the Colony. The system in force, which was last revised in 1896, had been found both too expensive in its gradual expansion for the Colony's revenue to support, and also quite unsuited to the real wants of the community. Proposals for a complete change, originating with the late Governor, had been fully threshed out by the Board of Education, and a Bill was prepared at several discussions of that body which was passed by the Legislative Council in June, 1906, the date of its commencement to operate as law being fixed for the 1st of April, 1907. In the interval, however, not only was it ascertained to be more expensive in its working than had been anticipated, but its provisions failed to secure the support of those most interested in it, the managers of the denominational schools, which form the majority of the primary schools in the Colony. Upon the present Governor's arrival in January, 1907, they made energetic representations to His Excellency about the measure, and, after full consideration, it was decided that their criticisms were sufficiently well grounded and the fact of increased cost sufficiently clear to make it advisable not to enforce the new measure in April, and it was accordingly suspended by an Ordinance passed with that object.

33. A fresh Bill was then prepared, which, while taking as its basis the original proposals to which the suspended Ordinance owed its birth, gave effect to them in another way, which removed the obstacles discovered and disposed of the difficulties of the school managers, as represented. This was presented to the Legislative Council in July, and, after discussion by a committee of the Board of Education, most of whose sug-

gestions were adopted, was finally* passed by the Legislative Council in December, 1907, and became law on 1st April, 1908. Comment on its provisions belongs, therefore, to the report for the current year.

34. There were 45 elementary schools in Grenada in 1907, nine of which were Government schools, supported altogether from Colonial revenue, and the remainder denominational schools aided by grants from that revenue. Twenty-one of these belong to the Roman Catholic Church, nine to the Anglicans, four to the Wesleyans, and two to the Church of Scotland. The total expenditure of the schools amounted in 1907 to £5,592, of which £5,215 was from public funds, the corresponding figures for 1906 being £5,727 and £5,467. The numbers on the roll were 10,406, and the average attendance 4,850.

SECONDARY.

35. No definite progress can be recorded in regard to this question in 1907. The Ordinance passed in 1906, but not brought into operation, remained in that condition of suspended animation, the primary difficulty connected with it, viz., the provision of funds for the erection of a boys' school, not being surmounted. The question, however, engaged the careful consideration of the Government, and in the current year proposals have been made and are being brought to finality, which should place the whole system on a sound and satisfactory footing.

36. During 1907 the existing boys' and girls' schools in St. George's were carried on, upon a temporary footing, under acting officers, and the Government grants to them were provisionally continued. The average attendance of boys was 25, and of the girls 27.

37. The St. Joseph's Convent School continued its satisfactory work as usual during the year. The considerations affecting the other two secondary schools have no connection with it.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

38. *Colony Hospital*.—Eight hundred and seventy-two cases were treated in 1907, the daily average being 94, and the cost per patient £22 16s. 3d. Four hundred and ninety-five patients were discharged cured, 247 were relieved, and 44 died. In the out-patient department there were 1,953 attendances, and there were 79 paying patients in the wards, from whom £114 in fees were received by the Colonial Treasury.

39. *Yaws' Hospital*.—Two hundred and forty cases were treated, the admissions being 158 in number, and the daily average 79; of these 168 were discharged cured, and one died from Bright's disease. The institution cost the Colony £805 in the year for maintenance.

40. *St. Andrew's District Hospital*.—One hundred and forty-five cases were treated, the daily average being 11; 121 were cured, 6 relieved, and 8 died. The cost per patient was £34 4s. 5d., which is higher than in any other local institution. The dispensary receipts were £201 17s., and 9,512 prescriptions were compounded, of which 4,023 were paid for. The District Dispensary was enlarged in 1907, securing *inter alia* a waiting room for patients.

41. *Carriacou District Hospital*.—An immense improvement has been effected here by the opening on the 1st October, 1907, of the new Bellevue Hospital. At this fine stone building, in the centre of the island, 800 feet above sea level, accommodation is provided for 28 patients, and it is made use of not only by natives of the Colony but by the people from the adjacent Grenadine islands belonging to St. Vincent. One hundred and seventy-eight patients were treated at the old and new hospitals in 1907, with a daily average of 14; 123 were cured, 36 relieved, and 5 died. The cost of a patient in the year was £30 15s. 9d. The receipts from the District Dispensary were £73, and 4,231 prescriptions were compounded, of which 1,224 were paid for.

42. *Lunatic Asylum*.—Forty-six patients were admitted during the year, of whom 21 were from St. Lucia, 24 from Grenada, and 1 from St. Vincent. The number under treatment was 174, of whom 23 were discharged and 7 died, and the daily average was 132, which is somewhat in excess of the accommodation. The departmental accounts were prepared and audited for the first time, in accordance with recent instructions from the Secretary of State, and show the cost of the institution to have been £2,447 in 1907, of which £1,066 was repaid by St. Lucia and St. Vincent and by paying patients, making the share borne by Grenada £1,151.

43. *Poor Asylum*.—This is practically a hospital for incurables, and 84 were cared for during the year, of whom 11 left of their own accord, 1 had to be transferred to the lunatic asylum, 1 was drowned while on leave and bathing in the sea, and 16 died at the institution. An inmate cost about £10 for maintenance.

44. The improved financial conditions of the year were fully reflected in the work of the Savings Banks. The depositors increased in number from 1,475 to 1,638, and the amount deposited from £7,875 to £12,564, while the balance remaining at the end of the year amounted to £15,419, as compared with £12,378 at 31st December, 1906. Of this balance £12,000 was invested in Colonial Securities and £2,000 was on deposit at

interest with the Colonial Bank. Arrangements were made with the British Minister at Panama whereby Grenadians on the isthmus can deposit their money in the Savings Bank of the Colony.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

45. The strength of the police force is 71, of all ranks, and comprises the Chief of Police, the sub-inspector, 5 sergeants, 5 corporals, 9 lance-corporals, and 50 privates; it receives a semi-military training, and is armed with the Martini-Enfield rifle. The men were exercised at rifle practice at the Queen's Park Range in 1907, going through the "Trained Men's Course—Militia" with satisfactory results. It may also be recorded that the headquarters' detachment stood the test of a rather trying period in October, when the normal calm of Grenada was interrupted for a time by popular excitement on account of an attempt made by a Revenue Officer to murder the Colonial Treasurer, and that they acquitted themselves creditably.

46. Two hundred and fifty-eight persons were committed to the Richmond Hill Prison in 1907, 203 men and 55 women; 225 being from Grenada, 30 from St. Lucia, and 3 from St. Vincent; the daily average being 63. Of the 258 committals, 215 were for purposes of penal imprisonment, and the 30 from St. Lucia were a batch of convicted rioters. The departmental accounts, kept for the first time this year in accordance with recent instructions from the Secretary of State, and audited, show that, after deducting £331 paid by St. Lucia and St. Vincent in respect of the maintenance of their convicts, the prison cost the Colony £836.

47. The prison suffered a loss in 1907 in the person of its excellent Superintendent, Mr. Richard Heels, who had to go on leave in August, his health having broken down, and has finally retired in the current year.

48. The Acting Attorney-General reports that the criminal statistics for the year indicate a noticeable decrease in crime, although the number of summary convictions for prædial larceny is apparently on the increase. This is due to the special efforts being made to check this form of crime, amongst which may be mentioned the grant of free summonses to complainants in the Magistrates' Courts in such cases.

ITAL STATISTICS.

49. The emigration in 1907 to the Canal Zone of Panama was not upon the same large scale as in the preceding year, and, according to the returns made, the Colony's apparent loss in population, due to emigrants not returned from the Isthmus during the year, was only 180. Deducting these from the population, as shown by the natural increase since the last census, the estimated population of the Colony at 31st December, 1907, was 71,504, or an increase of 8,066 on the census figures.

50. The birth-rate was 36·26 per thousand of the mean estimated population, and the death-rate 19·59, the averages for the preceding decennial period being 41·27 and 21·80, respectively. The fall in the birth-rate is perhaps attributable to the absence of large numbers of males in Panama.

51. The year under review was exceptionally healthy, a result probably attributable to the abnormally small rainfall, which will be noticed in the next section. A comparison of the deaths from the four principal causes in Grenada in 1906 and 1907 is here given to illustrate the improved conditions:—

			1906.		1907.
Diarrhœa	...	...	204	...	112
Dysentery	...	...	135	...	47
Enteritis	...	...	190	...	165
Fevers	...	...	175	...	120

52. Yellow fever was successfully kept out of the Colony from neighbouring islands, where it was prevalent. Two cases were imported from Trinidad, but were immediately isolated, and the disease did not spread. Twelve cases of the usual type of mild small-pox occurred, and being carefully isolated, the progress of the disease was checked in each instance.

53. The principal meteorological statistics of the year are as follows:—

Rainfall—			Inches.
North of the Island	...	...	65·58
Centre of the Island	...	...	131·19
South of the Island	...	...	59·04
Carriacou	...	...	33·61

The following figures are for the south of the Island:—

Mean relative humidity	...	...	76·3°
Maximum temperature	...	...	89·4°
Minimum temperature	...	...	67·8°
Mean pressure	...	...	29·979ins.
Days of rain	...	...	232

54. The average rainfall at the Meteorological Station in the south of the island in the 15 years ended 1905 was 78·34 inches.

in 1906 it was 83·27 inches, while, as will be seen above, it amounted to only 59·04 in 1907. In Carriacou the deficient rainfall was even more marked, the record of 1906 being 68·40 inches, while only 33·61 inches were received in 1907.

POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

55. There was an increase in Post Office business in the year 1907, as the subjoined figures show:—

	1906.	1907.
Letters and post cards	446,927	484,943
Newspapers, books, &c.	142,710	162,176
Registered articles	11,020	11,096
Parcels	6,950	7,421
Money orders issued and paid	£20,287	£24,807
British postal orders issued and paid	£2,442	£2,856

56. A prominent feature of the year's transactions was the large amount of money received from emigrants to the Canal Zone of the Panama Isthmus under the money order system established in July, 1906, no less than £6,235 being remitted to Grenada in this manner. In the five months of the preceding year, when it was in operation, £2,228 were thus remitted.

57. On the 17th September a new contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, for the transport of the inter-Colonial mails for ten years, commenced to operate. One-half of the total subsidy for this service, £25,000, is paid by the Imperial Government, and of the remaining £12,500 Grenada contributes £900 per annum. The Colonies concerned are to be congratulated upon the final settlement of this important question, and the ending of the difficulties and delays resulting from the absence of a service under contract.

58. The telephone service was satisfactorily maintained throughout the year, and there are no special changes or improvements worthy of mention.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

59. A rifle club was formed in St. George's on the 20th August, 1907, and is allowed the use of the Police Range at Queen's Park and of a certain number of police rifles. Police assistance is also given at the butts and in cleaning and attending to the rifles, and the Government allows the club to draw from the magazine an allowance not exceeding 10,000 cartridges per annum at half the cost price.

GENERAL REMARKS.

60. His Excellency, Ralph C. Williams, C.M.G., who had been appointed Governor of the Windward Islands on the 8th September, 1906, arrived in the Colony on the 16th of January, 1907, and next morning took the oaths of office. On the 9th of November the King was pleased to confer upon His Excellency the honour of appointment to be a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

61. A Commission was appointed on 4th March to enquire into certain matters of importance affecting the peasant proprietary of the island, and presented its report and recommendations on 3rd December. Legislative and other action is being taken in the current year in these matters, and more satisfactory conditions may fairly be anticipated from the contemplated improvements.

EDWARD DRAYTON,
Administrator.

Grenada,
31st October, 1908.



CARRIACOU



COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.						
No.	Colony, &c.					Year.
554	Southern Nigeria	...	...	...	...	1906
555	St. Vincent	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	...	...	...	...	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	...	...	...	...	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	...	...	...	...	"
559	Swaziland	...	...	...	...	"
560	St. Helena	...	...	...	...	1907
561	Ceylon	...	...	...	...	"
562	Falkland Islands	...	...	...	...	"
563	Gibraltar...	...	...	...	...	"
564	Ashanti	...	...	...	...	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	1907
567	Seychelles	...	...	...	...	"
568	Bermuda...	...	...	...	...	"
569	Weihaiwei	...	...	...	...	"
570	Hong Kong	...	...	...	...	"
571	Malta	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
572	British Honduras	...	...	...	...	1907
573	Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
575	Bahamas	...	...	...	...	"
576	Gambia	...	...	...	...	1907
577	St. Vincent	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	...	...	...	...	1907
579	St. Lucia...	...	...	...	...	"
580	Fiji	...	...	...	...	"
581	Mauritius	...	...	...	...	"
582	Straits Settlements	...	...	...	...	"
583	Southern Nigeria	...	...	...	...	"
584	Imperial Institute	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
585	Barbados...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	...	...	...	...	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	...	...	...	...	"
588	Sierra Leone	...	...	...	...	1907
589	British Guiana	...	...	...	...	1907-1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.				Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	...	...	...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	...	...	...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	...	...	...	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	...	...	...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	...	...	...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.
54	Newfoundland...	...	...	...	Governor's visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	...	...	...	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	...	...	...	Salt Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 550.

BRITISH GUIANA.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 514.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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1907.

[Cd. 3729-14.] *Price 2½d.*

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No. 550.

BRITISH GUIANA.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 514.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Georgetown, Demerara,

4th October, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book for the year 1906-7, which has been prepared by Mr. G. D. Bayley, Acting Assistant Government Secretary, together with two copies of the Blue Book.

I have, &c.,

F. M. HODGSON,

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

FINANCIAL.

GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue of the year was £535,745 13s., as compared with £522,493 0s. 8d. in 1905-6. Details are given below:—

Revenue.

	1905-6.			1906-7.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	323,877	19	10	331,863	4	3½
Excise	99,164	9	11	101,840	13	10
Charges Judicial Proceedings, &c. ...	11,561	19	8½	12,943	6	10½
Fees and Taxes	8,199	1	1	6,905	6	10½
Government Lands and Houses ...	3,206	6	10	2,994	10	7½
Government Establishments	10,655	10	3	10,712	12	1½
Post Office and Telegraphs	15,916	2	5½	16,140	13	3½
Crown Lands	8,371	9	8	9,733	12	8
Gold Industry	17,551	6	9	17,800	2	7½
Miscellaneous	6,365	2	9	7,936	17	3½
Interest	10,409	18	8	9,588	0	4
Sale of Crown Lands	121	3	7	174	13	7½
Repayment of Loans and Advances ...	7,092	9	2	7,091	18	6½
Total	£522,493	0	8	£535,745	13	0

2. The expenditure amounted to £514,053 6s. 3d. The figures for the previous year were £506,173 3s. 1½d.

Expenditure.

	1905-6.			1906-7.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
His Excellency the Governor	4,682	0	9	5,127	6	11½
Legislature	64	1	2	262	18	9
Government Secretariat	4,657	2	10½	4,603	5	4½
Auditor General	3,633	2	4	3,740	5	8½
Receiver General, including Commissioners.	13,126	3	2½	12,454	0	1
Commissioner of Stamps	978	11	9	895	11	1
Customs	11,311	3	0	15,354	17	0½
Excise	2,892	2	11½	—	—	—
Harbours	1,235	3	7½	1,245	4	7½
Pilotage	2,591	9	6	2,207	17	4½
Department of Lands and Mines ...	14,894	5	6½	15,073	9	1
Immigration Department	7,725	19	2½	6,974	16	10½
Carried forward... ..	67,791	5	11	67,939	12	11½

Expenditure—continued.

	1905-6.			1906-7.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	67,791	5	11	67,939	12	11½
Central Board of Health	1,912	9	1½	2,046	13	4
Registration of Births and Deaths ...	1,410	8	7½	1,531	9	0
Commissioner, Pomeroon and Esse- quebo River.	1,494	10	0	1,446	14	2
North Western District	1,298	1	1½	1,251	15	7½
Judges	4,075	12	9	4,086	5	9½
Law Officers	2,668	16	5½	2,561	12	0
Police Magistrates	13,081	11	6½	12,888	6	0
Stipendiary Magistrates						
Administration of Justice	6,806	6	8	5,293	9	4½
Official Receiver	921	17	7½	891	1	11
Registrar	4,933	17	11½	4,663	13	9½
Police	47,144	12	3	48,102	6	8
Fire Brigade	2,992	0	4	3,269	6	5
Prisons	12,267	6	6	11,177	2	10½
Ministers of Religion	20,350	13	7	20,146	4	4
Poor	11,791	6	3	12,246	11	11½
Medical	26,837	19	10	30,084	6	8½
Hospitals and Asylums	34,766	0	8	34,481	9	10
Vaccination	448	2	1½	163	8	5½
Queen's College	2,547	8	3½	2,539	12	7½
Primary Education	26,314	11	2½	26,537	4	4
Education—						
Miscellaneous	1,070	17	11½	884	13	8
Underneeming School	2,204	19	11½	2,035	19	2
Orphan School	1,048	3	3	1,136	11	11
Post Office	22,095	15	11½	21,502	5	0½
Science and Agriculture	53	7	7	—		
Government Laboratory	1,984	15	3	7,695	15	9½
Botanical	2,957	13	5½	—		
Board of Agriculture	2,101	1	3½	—		
Public Works—						
Staff, Colonial Civil Engineer ...	6,582	9	9½	6,564	7	8
Other Annually Recurrent	12,813	17	5	15,558	0	11
Extraordinary	7,346	19	11½	6,982	5	7
Roads	8,915	14	7½	19,412	4	11
New Works	2,867	6	7	2,008	18	10
Municipal	9,664	5	4	10,001	1	2
Other Subventions	30,677	8	9	32,202	4	7½
Militia	5,376	6	5	4,661	19	1
Pensions	36,980	16	4½	37,935	19	5
Miscellaneous	8,246	2	9	10,595	17	9
Public Debt—						
Sinking Fund and Interest	40,909	1	5	41,343	15	5
Interest—Unfunded Debt	421	0	2	131	10	1
Unprovided	—			51	6	10½
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£506,173	3	1½	£514,053	6	3

3. The revenue of the year exceeds that of the previous year by some £13,252, and is more than £21,692 in excess of the expenditure.

4. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the last five years compare as follows:—

		Revenue.			Expenditure.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1902-1903	...	557,351	2	5½	501,704	9	9½
1903-1904	...	555,853	7	8	530,225	0	4½
1904-1905	...	512,972	14	3	511,182	17	3½
1905-1906	...	522,493	0	8	506,173	3	1½
1906-1907	...	535,745	13	0	514,053	6	3

TAXATION.

5. The Customs duties are much in excess of those collected in 1905-6. The *ad valorem* rate was maintained at 15 per cent.

6. The Excise duty on locally-manufactured rum was the same as in 1905-6, *i.e.*, 8s. 11½*d.* per gallon.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

7. The liabilities and assets of the Colony on the 31st March, 1907, were:—

Liabilities.				Assets.			
				£	s.	d.	
Deposits	48,775	3	8½	Cash Balance in Colony and	43,483	17	9½
Unclaimed Balances and	4,661	6	4½	in hands of Crown Agents.			
Dividends.				Advances	10,038	6	10
Cash held for investment for	328	12	5	Deposits invested	6,718	9	8
Repayment of Loans (Re-							
serve Fund) and Sinking							
Funds.							
Surplus	6,474	11	9½				
	£60,239	14	3½		£60,239	14	3½

8. From the above it will be seen that the floating debt of the Colony, which stood at £170,702 in 1898-9, has been extinguished.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The public debt of the Colony at the closing of books on 31st March, 1907, was:—

For sums borrowed for the construction of public works and public purposes	... £787,720	0	0
For sums borrowed by Consolidated Immigration Loan Commissioners on the ultimate security of the revenues of the Colony		120,000	0 0

Total amount for which the revenue of the Colony is pledged £907,720 0 0

10. On the 31st March, 1906, the public debt stood at £988,720.

11. There has been no loan issue during the year of report.

12. The subjoined statement shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony from 1871 to 1906-7, the expenditure on loan account from 1878, and the yearly provision from revenue for sinking fund from 1884.

Comparative Statement of Revenue and Expenditure from 1871 to 1906-7, showing Expenditure on Loan Account from 1878, and the Yearly Provision for Sinking Fund.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus Revenue.	Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.	Expenditure from Loan Account, exclusive of Loans to Corporations repayable to Colony.	Yearly provision for Sinking Fund from Revenue.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871..	379,647 4 7½	338,053 3 4½	41,594 1 3	—	—	—
1872..	379,316 3 10	391,219 12 6½	—	11,903 8 8½	—	—
1873..	361,931 12 8½	390,355 14 1½	—	28,424 1 5	—	—
1874..	363,457 18 8	381,103 6 3	—	15,645 7 7	—	—
1875..	352,136 16 10	355,979 1 10½	—	3,842 5 0½	—	—
1876..	383,807 19 0	343,734 10 2	20,073 8 10	—	—	—
1877..	389,871 10 4	380,565 12 2½	9,305 18 1½	—	—	—
1878..	409,259 4 5	417,995 15 10½	—	8,736 11 5½	25,123 11 9	—
1879..	396,740 13 2½	387,642 15 7	8,097 17 7½	—	24,029 16 3	—
1880..	404,461 6 0½	394,592 11 11½	9,868 14 1	—	17,084 9 0	—
1881..	403,245 9 7½	421,087 2 0½	—	17,841 12 5	49,681 14 2	—
1882..	458,694 7 7	428,971 9 4½	29,722 18 2½	—	52,558 17 5½	—
1883..	478,216 8 1	459,207 9 4	19,008 18 9	—	17,936 9 10½	—
1884..	460,932 6 0	449,785 14 7	11,146 11 11	—	23,713 12 3½	490 0 0
1885..	434,813 8 5½	469,942 18 3	—	29,129 9 9½	26,486 5 2	12,941 0 0
1886..	446,028 16 3½	479,984 0 8½	—	30,956 4 5	11,340 5 4	8,291 0 0
1887..	463,870 15 4½	489,214 15 8½	—	25,344 0 4	40,701 10 9	11,791 0 0
1888-9 (1st Jan., '88, to 31st Mar., '89).	580,762 19 0	606,535 8 9½	—	24,772 9 9½	33,642 5 6	14,738 15 0
1889-90 (1st Apr., '89, to 31st Mar., '90).	522,767 2 1½	508,108 7 4	14,656 14 9½	—	19,071 3 8	14,791 0 0
1890-1	560,201 12 11	531,099 9 0	29,102 3 11	—	32,692 0 8½	15,910 0 0
1891-2	563,769 12 9½	543,186 10 3½	20,577 2 6	—	42,025 12 2½	15,166 0 0
1892-3	573,493 0 10	542,469 12 11	30,993 7 11	—	26,391 0 10½	16,416 0 0
1893-4	602,782 16 2	566,883 0 9½	35,929 15 4½	—	35,945 12 8½	18,068 0 0
1894-5	588,245 2 9½	586,486 3 1	1,758 19 8½	—	19,093 15 7½	20,018 5 0
1895-6	567,749 13 5½	596,493 0 5	—	28,743 6 11½	26,742 8 4½	19,687 10 0
1896-7	556,774 16 4	590,616 3 1	—	34,841 6 9	25,234 6 10	22,437 10 0
1897-8	505,868 12 3	564,556 9 3	—	59,187 17 0	8,869 11 3½	17,587 10 0
1898-9	525,865 10 2½	525,387 10 6	477 10 8½	—	17,676 19 4½	16,668 5 3½
1899-1900	538,838 14 3½	525,542 17 2½	13,295 17 1	—	13,593 8 5	11,291 13 4
1900-1	509,950 8 0	505,492 11 3	4,457 16 9	—	*2,912 2 3	11,953 19 2
1901-2	531,506 10 8½	522,631 13 1	8,874 17 7½	—	*3,995 18 8½	12,716 4
1902-3	557,351 2 5½	501,704 9 9½	55,646 12 8	—	*1,205 12 0½	13,218 15 0
1903-4	555,853 7 8	530,225 0 4½	25,628 7 3½	—	*1,247 7 2	13,218 15 0
1904-5	512,972 14 3	511,182 17 3½	1,789 16 11½	—	—	13,218 15 0
1905-6	522,793 0 8	506,173 3 1½	16,618 17 6½	—	—	13,218 15 0
1906-7	535,745 13 0	514,053 6 3	21,692 6 9	—	—	13,218 15 0

* Expended on authorities dated 1900 and earlier.

13. The amounts advanced from time to time to corporations and public bodies out of moneys raised on loan by the Colony aggregated £369,214; the statement below shows how

this total is distributed, and the several sums outstanding on the 31st March last:—

	Original Advance.	Outstand- ing on 31st March, 1907.
	£	£
To the Mayor and Town Council of Georgetown ...	90,417	15,000
" " " New Amsterdam	18,645	6,768
" " Commissioners in aid of Water Supply Works	136,751	50,577
" " " of Vlissengen	42,258	40,542
Demerara-Essequibo Railway... ..	41,667	19,443
Miscellaneous Loans	39,476	739
	£ 369,214	133,069

14. Thus £236,145 of the sum originally advanced have been repaid.

15. The necessary provision for sinking fund and interest in respect of the Colony's loans has been regularly made, and the sum of £198,909 1s. 5*d.* stood at credit of Sinking Fund Account on 31st March last.

CURRENCY.

16. Accounts are kept in dollars and cents. The coin in circulation is made up of British bronze, silver, and gold. The amount of gold in circulation is very small. The value of the note issues of British Guiana and Colonial Banks in circulation on 31st March, 1907, was estimated at £123,295.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MUNICIPALITIES.

Georgetown.

17. The following return shows the revenue and expenditure of Georgetown, the capital of the Colony, for the past five years:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1902-1903	£50,361	£50,673
1903-1904	53,690	53,886
1904-1905	53,081	49,116
1905-1906	53,057	52,339
1906-1907	54,596	51,159

18. The revenue was derived principally from—town taxes (a tax of 2 per cent. on the appraised valuation of all houses and lands in the city) £32,375, market fees, which produced £6,060, cemeteries £1,525, and water rates £3,110; bonds to the extent of £5,314 were redeemed, and interest to the extent

of £2,912 was paid in respect of the Corporation's debt; £6,435 were expended on labour and sanitary superintendence; lighting cost £3,710, salaries £3,188, water works £5,355, conservancy £3,570, and cemeteries £1,645.

19. There was an expenditure of £5,744 on the fire brigade of the city. The Mayor and Town Council are by law responsible for the brigade, which is manned from the British Guiana Police Force, the Government and the Corporation dividing the cost equally between them.

20. The population of the city is estimated at 52,450. The electric services, tramway, lighting, and telephone are very fairly efficient; there is a good water service under the control of the municipal authorities.

21. In the case of New Amsterdam—the second town in importance, situate on the east bank of the Berbice River—the figures are:—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
1902-1903	...	£9,949	...	£10,563
1903-1904	...	13,264	...	10,908
1904-1905	...	12,240	...	12,115
1905-1906	...	9,821	...	10,023
1906-1907	...	10,100	...	9,795

22. The town taxes yielded £3,761; water rates, £125; market fees, £1,174; electric light supplied £2,297; £1,107 was spent on water works, £685 on roads, £562 on street lighting, and £2,496 on the electric lighting plant.

23. The inhabitants of the town are estimated at 7,012. It is lighted by an electricity plant owned by the municipality.

DEBTS OF MUNICIPALITIES.

24. The debt of the municipality of Georgetown on the 31st December, 1906, stood at £66,833 16s. 3d.; that of New Amsterdam stood at £16,831 2s. 1½d. Provision is made year by year for the redemption of loans and for payment of interest thereon.

VILLAGES.

25. At the close of the year there were 75 incorporated villages and sanitary districts, under the control of the Central Board of Health.

26. The revenue of these communities amounted to £9,332, derived from rates varying from 1 per cent. to 5 per cent. on the appraised value of the property. In addition to this amount the value of labour rates performed in the poorer districts was £672. The expenditure amounted to £9,412.

27. There was due by the several villages and districts to the Government on the 31st March, 1907, for loans, £2,858. Provision is made annually for the repayment of these loans with interest.

28. The village communities as a whole have continued to make satisfactory progress. In some of them the area available for cultivation has been considerably increased. The

local taxes are collected with much greater promptitude than formerly; during the past year 97 per cent. of the rates estimated to be received by the incorporated villages was collected, as compared with 75 per cent. in 1900-1.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

29. The value of imports into the Colony for the year, as compared with the previous year, shows an increase of £28,598 16s. 8d. Divided into four principal heads the results are as follows:—

Articles.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
I. Live Animals, Food, Drink, and Narcotics	725,722 7 7½	703,338 13 0
II. Raw Materials—		
(a.) Textile	—	—
(b.) Metal	—	—
(c.) Other	115,039 2 9½	85,452 8 10½
III. Manufactured Articles—		
(a.) Textile	264,865 9 1½	322,229 11 8
(b.) Metal	192,621 17 8	149,210 9 1
(c.) Other	341,830 10 11½	374,927 11 10
IV. Coin and Bullion	22,126 8 1	55,645 18 5½
Total	£ 1,662,205 16 3	1,690,804 12 11

30. The increase affects all the heads enumerated except Live Animals, Food, Drink, and Narcotics, "Other" under Raw Materials, and "Metal" under Manufactured Articles.

31. The following table gives a comparison of the chief articles of import with their values:—

Comparison of Chief Articles of Import.

Articles.	Value.	
	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£
Bags and sacks	27,226	48,566
Beef, pickled	19,656	18,147
Bicycles and tricycles	1,394	1,048
Bolts and nuts, chains and iron, black or steel, and wire.	4,281	5,649
Boots and shoes	16,712	25,549
Brandy	2,882	3,019
Bread, crackers, &c.	5,977	4,769
Building materials	4,751	1,764

Comparison of Chief Articles of Import—cont.

Articles.	Value.	
	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£
Butter	20,278	24,266
Butter substitutes, lard, &c.	12,043	9,578
Cheese	6,505	7,235
Clothing	8,612	7,843
Coal	26,642	34,112
Cornmeal, &c.	5,015	4,548
Corn or maize	1,639	1,560
Drugs and apothecaries' wares	10,111	13,237
Earthen and glass ware	7,264	8,606
Estate supplies	10,061	11,899
Fish, dried	58,955	53,008
Flour	167,489	152,467
Galvanized iron sheets	8,403	8,070
Gin	2,500	3,031
Grain and pulse, not otherwise specified	24,463	34,577
Haberdashery and millinery	45,321	45,990
Hardware and cutlery	27,846	23,241
Linen, cotton, and woollen goods	170,860	186,499
Lumber, pine	31,808	28,195
Malt liquor	16,523	19,479
Manures	147,162	143,065
Meats, preserved or canned, &c., hams, &c.	10,000	10,100
Milk, condensed	11,024	12,547
Oats	16,803	18,875
Oil, petroleum	16,208	19,913
Oil, other	23,190	24,772
Pork, pickled	39,632	42,588
Potatoes	24,275	22,850
Rice	57,168	27,409
Soap	15,183	13,733
Sugar machinery	82,603	52,334
Other machinery	33,338	20,260
Tobacco, leaf	10,993	10,168
Tobacco, manufactured	9,901	10,236
Whisky	9,861	10,711
Wines	6,240	5,546

32. The total of the imports for the year as shown was £1,690,804, being an increase of £28,598, as compared with the previous year. The imports came from:—

United Kingdom	£921,684
British Possessions	177,663
United States, North America	479,277
Foreign Countries	54,879
Transit Trade	57,301
Total	£1,690,804

33. The distribution of the import trade as between the United Kingdom and the United States may be seen from the table below:—

Articles.	United Kingdom.			United States.		
	1905-6.		1906-7.	1905-6.		1906-7.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.
Bags and Sacks	700,518	£ 15,063	1,197,295	16,150	£ 2,163	110,700
Beef, Pickled	59	273	20	7,059	19,274	6,815
Boots and Shoes	—	9,250	—	—	7,096	—
Bread and Biscuits	66,192	2,111	11,614	347,074	3,199	280,070
Bricks	568,595	3,997	590,400	—	—	—
Building Materials	—	4,026	—	—	725	—
Butter	198,882	9,220	178,149	17,990	787	44,153
Cement	8,099	3,347	8,340	6,099	2,504	400
Clothing	—	8,403	—	—	143	—
Coals	19,382	19,801	31,344	8,713	6,798	1,355
Coffee	35,313	700	19,973	129,702	2,417	4,484
Drugs and Chemicals	—	8,127	—	—	1,834	2,478
Flour	1,184	1,271	25	158,487	145,641	138,910
Fish (in tins)	130,757	3,300	168,157	183,717	4,125	144,714
" Dried	3,962	4,559	3,471	5,965	7,393	3,441
Glass Manufacture	—	3,476	—	—	701	4,177
Haberdashery and Millinery	—	43,887	—	—	538	573
Hardware and Cutlery	—	14,527	—	—	2,719	3,085
Hams	45,106	1,743	47,070	179,909	4,564	4,320

Lard	...	...	...	...	...	...
Linon, Cotton, and Woollen Goods	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lumber	...	...	...	...	...	...
Leather Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lime (Temper)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malt	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meats (in tins)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mules	...	...	No.	...	...	...
Machinery (Sugar)	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Electric Lighting	...	...	...	...	...	...
Materials for Railways	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manures	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oats	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oils (Cotton Seed)	...	...	...	...	...	...
(Petroleum)	...	...	...	...	...	...
" (not enumerated)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oleomargarine	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pork (Pickled)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulse or Grain (unenumerated)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rice	...	...	...	...	...	...
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shooks	...	...	...	...	...	...
Soap and Soap Powders	...	...	...	...	...	...
Staves	...	...	...	...	...	...
Silk and Satin	...	...	...	...	...	...
Stationery	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tobacco	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whisky	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wood Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...

34. The value of imports in each of the last five years is as under:—

1902-1903	...	...	...	£1,444,084
1903-1904	...	...	...	1,656,024
1904-1905	...	...	...	1,537,591
1905-1906	...	...	...	1,662,205
1906-1907	...	...	...	1,690,804

35. The annual average value of the imports during each of the last four quinquennial periods, commencing from 1886, is as follows:—

1886-1890	...	...	...	£1,663,285
1891-1895-96	...	...	...	1,704,220
1896-97-1900-01	...	...	...	1,341,665
1901-02-1905-06	...	...	...	1,542,935
1906-1907	...	...	...	1,690,804

EXPORTS.

36. Comparing the exports in 1906-7 with those of 1905-6, we have the following results:—

Articles.	Value.					
	1905-6.			1906-7.		
	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.	Produce and Manufacture of the Colony.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce and Manufacture.	Total.
I. Live Animals, Food, Drink, and Narcotics.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(a) Textile	1,392,410 3 8½	73,450 17 3½	1,465,861 1 0	1,249,354 9 7½	62,593 11 1½	1,311,948 0 9
II. Raw Materials—						
(b) Metal	84 18 7½	—	84 18 7½	10 14 6	—	10 14 9
(c) Other	73,914 3 10½	30,671 17 2½	104,586 1 1	70,471 15 10½	16,445 14 6½	86,917 10 5
III. Manufactured Articles—						
(a) Textile	26 1 8	6,953 17 6	6,979 19 2	—	10,412 14 9	10,412 14 9
(b) Metal	3 19 2	11,180 14 4½	11,184 13 6½	—	5,921 18 9½	5,921 18 1½
(c) Other	7,964 4 0½	5,583 17 8	13,548 1 9½	13,423 18 10	8,648 18 11	22,072 17 9
IV. Coin and Bullion ...	352,030 13 7½	35,074 2 7	387,104 16 2½	319,222 3 3½	69,939 19 4	389,162 2 7½
V. Precious Stones (Diamonds).	5,044 19 1½	—	5,044 19 1½	6,977 6 10½	—	6,997 6 10½
Total	£ 1,831,479 3 10	162,915 6 7½	1,994,394 10 3½	1,659,280 9 0	183,827 6 6	1,143,107 15 6

37. Taking local produce alone and dividing it under its principal heads, the following results are obtained:—

Local Produce.

Articles.	1905-6.		1906-7.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Sugar Tons	116,550	1,208,155	114,951	1,059,503
Rum Galls. (Proof)	3,536,784	121,729	3,342,896	108,460
Molasses Galls.	276,661	8,932	344,127	11,829
Molascuit or Cattle Food. Tons	11,405	41,864	12,960	39,824
Lumber, G. H. & C.... Feet	29,999	747	49,849	2,674
Firewood, Wallaba, &c. Tons	5,708	2,092	8,278	2,213
Timber Cubic feet	276,765	24,939	170,985	15,556
Shingles No.	1,476,500	1,294	2,075,200	1,653
Ballata Lbs.	550,691	40,312	634,242	50,106
Bullion (Raw Gold) Ozs.	95,044	352,031	86,125	319,222
Hides No.	7,523	2,979	4,018	1,863
Cattle Head	1,588	7,074	1,389	6,652
Charcoal Bags	64,211	6,759	65,219	7,106
Cocoa Lbs.	57,097	1,528	50,033	1,420
Diamonds Carats	4,203	5,045	4,113	6,797
Fish Glue Lbs.	17,588	1,256	16,124	1,199
Cocoanuts No.	71,129	236	49,990	148

38. Treating the figures for foreign produce in the same way, we have:—

Foreign Produce.

Articles.	1905-6.		1906-7.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Ballata Lbs.	96,822	6,118	117,947	7,625
Reef (pickled) ... Brls.	289	657	231	562
Coals Loose, Bunker Coals. Tons	3,767	2,804	2,732	1,789
Fish (dried) ... Cwt.	1,519	1,488	2,799	2,882
Flour Brls.	4,674	4,801	4,550	3,724
Machinery	—	2,983	—	2,140
Malt Liquor	—	884	—	1,038
Onions Lbs.	99,851	441	142,728	633
Pork Brls.	103	333	207	691
Pulse Lbs.	88,088	459	153,677	764
Rice	434,223	1,937	210,488	1,128
Old Metal	185,974	2,811	301,525	5,338
Old Iron Tons	488	452	2,631	1,525

39. The value of the exports in each of the last five years is shown below:—

Exports.

Year.	Colonial Produce.	British, Foreign, and other Colonial Produce.	Total.
	£	£	£
1902-1903 ...	1,673,549	156,200	1,829,749
1903-1904 ...	1,678,395	131,643	1,810,038
1904-1905 ...	1,855,714	135,334	1,991,048
1905-1906 ...	1,831,479	162,915	1,994,394
1906-1907 ...	1,659,280	183,827	1,843,107

40. The values given in the case of exports are the values at the port of shipment.

41. The total export trade of the Colony for the year was less by £151,287 than in 1905-06.

42. The bulk and value of sugar exported were less than in 1905-06. The average value for last year works out at £9 16s. 10d., as compared with £10 7s. 5d. in the previous year, per ton.

43. The decrease in the rum export amounts to 193,888 proof gallons, representing a value of £13,269.

44. The annual average quantities and values of sugar, rum, and molasses exported from the Colony in each of the last four quinquennial periods commencing from 1886, are shown in the subjoined statement:—

Year.	Sugar.		Rum.		Molasses.		Total Value.
	Tons.	Value.	Proof Gallons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.	
		£		£		£	£
1886-1890	115,184	1,642,886	2,047,493	154,613	2,231,360	63,685	1,861,184
1891-1895-6	108,256	1,415,107	2,187,604	161,954	1,098,822	29,034	1,606,095
1896-1900-01	96,818	1,057,446	3,295,563	157,259	514,967	13,910	1,228,615
1901-1902-1905-06 ..	115,007	1,129,883	3,711,887	116,576	289,405	9,585	1,255,844
1906-1907	114,951	1,069,503	3,342,896	108,460	344,127	11,829	1,179,722

45. The table below shows how the colonial produce exported in each of the last five years was distributed:—

	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
To the United Kingdom...	729,517	638,624	729,067	861,766	718,532
„ British Colonies ...	136,689	619,380	554,650	674,856	507,287
„ the United States ...	782,180	404,389	541,923	327,410	408,322
„ Foreign Countries ...	25,162	16,002	30,074	130,362	25,139

46. The value of the imports from the United Kingdom as compared with those from the United States during the past five years is as follows:—

—	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	728,526	868,763	786,504	859,954	921,684
United States	452,678	476,444	443,480	470,516	479,277

47. During this period the Colony has sent to the United Kingdom produce to the value of £3,677,506, receiving in exchange goods to the value of £4,165,431. To the United States we have sent £2,464,224 worth, and have imported to a value of £2,322,395.

48. The percentage of distribution of the aggregate trade of the Colony during the last five years is as shown below:—

—	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
The United Kingdom ...	45·64	44·51	43·86	47·08	48·78
British Possessions... ..	8·41	23·52	21·44	24·03	19·47
The United States	37·76	25·58	28·07	21·82	25·30
Other Foreign Countries ...	3·75	3·15	3·30	2·79	3·20
Transit Trade	4·44	3·24	3·33	4·28	3·25

49. The sugar imported to the United Kingdom in the past five years was:—

				Tons.
1902-1903	...	...	...	16,326
1903-1904	...	...	...	11,542
1904-1905	...	...	...	17,682
1905-1906	...	...	...	21,040
1906-1907	...	...	...	25,110

To the United States:—

				Tons.
1902-1903	...	...	...	89,895
1903-1904	...	...	...	45,887
1904-1905	...	...	...	44,633
1905-1906	...	...	...	29,987
1906-1907	...	...	...	38,522

To Canada:—

				Tons.
1902-1903	...	...	...	13,777
1903-1904	...	...	...	68,329
1904-1905	...	...	...	44,329
1905-1906	...	...	...	65,436
1906-1907	...	...	...	51,217

50. There has been an increase of the export to the United States of 8,535 tons, to the United Kingdom of 4,070 tons, and a decrease to Canada of 14,219 tons.

AGRICULTURE.

51. The sugar crop for export amounted to 114,951 tons, as against 116,550 tons for the previous year. The total area in canes at the end of March, exclusive of land cultivated by cane farmers, was 74,426, as compared with 72,390 at the close of the previous year.

52. Work on the experimental cane cultivation at the Botanic Gardens under the charge of the Board of Agriculture continued during the year. Cultivation of the new varieties of cane on the sugar estates of the Colony received still greater attention on the part of the planters generally, and the area occupied by these experiments increased from 20,000 acres in the previous year to 27,500 acres. Practically all the sugar estates of the Colony continue to take part in this work.

53. The usual consolidated returns of the results of the experiments on the sugar estates undertaken on the manufacturing scale were published during the year. These returns indicate that a steady advance is maintained, and that new varieties produced in the Colony and in Barbados not only exceed the standard variety in yield of sugar per acre, but show greater resistance to drought and disease. These large scale experiments are being continually increased.

SUBSIDIARY AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Rice.

54. The area under cultivation in rice increased from 23,853 acres to 26,568 acres, and the estimated rice crop from 442,860 bags (of 120 lbs. each) of paddy to 756,400 bags.

55. The effect of the local production of rice on the imports of this food during recent years may be gathered from the subjoined table:—

	No. of lbs. of Rice			
	Imported.			
1895-1896	...	...	...	48,348,068
1896-1897	...	...	...	32,508,921
1897-1898	...	...	...	19,851,814
1898-1899	...	...	...	25,060,493
1899-1900	...	...	...	25,341,210
1900-1901	...	...	...	20,399,683
1901-1902	...	...	...	15,213,303
1902-1903	...	...	...	14,715,675
1903-1904	...	...	...	18,581,578
1904-1905	...	...	...	20,512,335
1905-1906	...	...	...	13,289,573
1906-1907	...	...	...	6,162,476

56. Further importation of varieties of paddy from Ceylon was made by the Board of Agriculture, these are being cultivated experimentally in a manner similar to that adopted for varieties of sugar cane. About four acres are occupied with these experiments.

Cacao.

57. The area returned as under cacao is 1,750 acres. The export amounted to 50,033 lbs. during the year, while that of 1905-06 was 57,097 lbs. A large proportion of the cacao produced in the Colony is utilised in the local manufacture of chocolate.

Coffee.

58. The area under coffee cultivation is returned as 1,460 acres. Its produce is all used locally, and there is practically no export trade.

Cocoanuts.

59. About 6,700 acres are estimated as being occupied by coconut palms. 49,900 cocoanuts, valued at £149, were exported. By far the greater part of the crop of cocoanuts is used locally in the manufacture of oil and fibre.

Cotton.

60. The area under cotton cultivation shows a decrease from 17 acres in the previous year to 10 acres. 303 lbs., valued at £11, were exported.

Plantains and Bananas.

61. 17,800 acres are returned as occupied by these crops, practically the whole production being consumed locally.

Cattle.

62. The returns show that there are 85,000 cattle in the Colony, and 1,389 cattle, valued at £6,652, were exported during the year, as against the 1,588 head, valued at £7,074, of the preceding year. The Board of Agriculture continue to introduce pure-bred bulls of suitable kinds in the hope of improving the class of cattle raised on the pastures.

Horses.

63. The number of horses shown is 2,420.

Sheep, Goats, and Swine.

64. There are, according to the returns, about 24,500 sheep, 15,500 goats, and 15,650 swine in the country districts. The number of these animals exported in 1906-07 was 752, valued at £454, as against 743, valued at £392 in 1905-06.

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,

65. This Board continues to direct its attention to the promotion of agricultural work in the Colony in several directions.

66. In addition to very extensive experiments with sugar canes, attention has been devoted to the encouragement of the cultivation of many other tropical agricultural and horticultural products which can be raised in the Colony, more especially of rice, cacao, and rubber.

67. As a means of interesting the people in the production of agricultural and horticultural products the Board has encouraged the holding of small local shows and county agricultural exhibitions. Two were held during the year with fair success. Farmers' competitions have also been held and have been attended by much interest on the part of the small cultivators.

68. The Board has devoted much attention to the spread of agricultural knowledge among the various classes of the community.

69. The instructors in agriculture have, as in the previous year, paid visits of instruction to the farmers and small settlers in several districts of the Colony, and their help appears to meet with growing appreciation.

70. The Board continued to devote attention to the improvement of the breeds of live stock generally.

MANUFACTURES.

71. Sugar, molasses, rum, and now molascuit practically represent the manufactures of the Colony.

72. The export of sugar for the year under review has already been shown to be 114,951 tons, as against 116,550 for the previous year. It is estimated that about 6,000 tons are consumed locally each year.

73. The subjoined table shows the average prices obtained for sugar and its by-products during the year, as compared with the previous year:—

	1905-06.	1906-07.
Sugar, vacuum pan, sold in the United Kingdom per ton ...	£12 10 0	9 11 8
Sugar, refining, sold in Canada, per ton ...	9 17 11	9 2 3½
Rum, per liquid gallon ...	0 1 1	0 0 11
Molasses, vacuum pan, per gallon ...	0 0 7½	0 0 8¼
Molascuit, per ton ...	3 13 4½	3 1 5½

74. There are two factories which prepare a part of the Colony-grown cocoa for home consumption. The match factory turns out a very fair article of the cheaper sort, but in

quantity sufficient to supply only a small portion of the local demand.

75. The other minor factories and industrial undertakings that may be mentioned under this head comprise:—

Three ironwork foundries and machine shops.

Steam sawmills.

Four steam woodworking factories.

A tannery, which is turning out leather of very good quality for local consumption; and the

Cocanut oil and fibre mills in the Mahaicony district.

Rice mills have also been put up in several of the rice districts of the Colony.

FISHERIES.

76. There is abundance of fish in the waters of the Colony, but as an industrial pursuit fishing is comparatively neglected. The deep-sea fishing, established some few years ago for the supply of the local market, has been maintained, and Georgetown is well supplied with grouper, dolphin, red snapper, &c.

77. The Fisheries Commission appointed by the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society in 1901, assisted by Dr. Wise, Government Bacteriologist, is still collecting information with regard to the habits, breeding seasons, &c., of the fishes of the Colony. The committee are at present engaged in investigations connected with the small fishes reported to feed on mosquito larvæ.

MINES.

78. The output of gold for the year was 85,504 ozs., showing a decrease of 8,859 ozs. on last year's production.

79. The decrease is due to the closing down of the hydraulic work at Omai and the very wet weather experienced during the last three closing months of the year, when all the lower levels of the goldfields were flooded and alluvial work in them consequently suspended.

80. The Peter's Mine continued work during the year, and produced 9,500 ozs. of gold from 12,621 tons of ore crushed. The work of development is being carried on systematically, and the prospects of the mine continue good.

81. Work on the Barima Mine closed down in April, in consequence of the reconstruction of the Proprietary Company; a new company has been organised called the British Guiana Gold Mines, Limited, and work on a much larger scale has again been started on this property.

82. The dredge at Omai continued work throughout the year, producing 948 ozs. of gold.

83. The dredge in Conawaruk started prospecting work in January last, and continued satisfactorily. 612½ ozs. of gold

were obtained from the work carried on, which is a good result and will probably induce the company to erect other dredges on this river.

84. The new goldfield in the Waini continued to give good returns during the year.

85. Increased attention is being drawn to the industry from outside capital, and the prospects continue good.

86. 65,903 diamonds, weighing 4,718½ carats, were obtained during the year. The quality of stones has improved to a very great extent, and though the number of stones was practically the same as last year, their weight increased by 700 carats.

87. Though no large development has taken place in this industry, it is holding its own.

CROWN LANDS AND FOREST INDUSTRIES.

88. The output of balata has exceeded that of last year's record by 79,982 lbs., the production being 637,040 lbs.; prices are good, and the coming year's production is estimated to be higher than that of the year under review.

89. Special interest is being shown by outside capital in the possibilities of rubber cultivation in the Colony, and the conditions under which Crown lands will be leased for this purpose are under the consideration of the Government.

90. The output of timber, charcoal, and shingles was fairly normal for the year, and satisfactory.

91. 149 licences and permissions to cut wood were issued during the year.

92. 131 grants of Crown lands, covering an area of 3,570·6 acres, were issued during the year, of which 32 were homestead grants of five acres and under.

SHIPPING.

93. The subjoined return gives the number, tonnage, and nationality of steam and sailing vessels entering the ports of the Colony during the year 1906-07, as compared with the previous year:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.			Total.			
	No.		Tonnage.	No.		Tonnage.	No.		Tonnage.	
	1905-6.	1906-7.		1905-6.	1906-7.		1905-6.	1906-7.		
	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.
British ...	187	171	256,744	313	398	29,039	500	569	285,783	263,034
French ...	24	26	10,260	—	1	—	24	27	10,260	12,547
Dutch ...	66	55	50,603	102	118	721	168	173	51,324	41,815
Norwegian ...	35	42	31,062	5	3	2,203	40	45	33,265	39,933
Argentine ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	571
American ...	—	—	—	4	4	2,829	4	4	2,829	2,741
Portuguese ...	—	—	—	3	4	814	3	4	814	656
Russian ...	—	—	—	11	6	3,519	11	6	3,519	1,791
Danish ...	9	3	8,528	—	—	—	9	3	8,528	3,230
Swedish ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	479
Venezuelan...	—	—	—	272	334	277	272	334	277	492
Italian ...	1	—	1,642	—	—	—	1	—	1,642	—
Spanish ...	—	—	—	1	1	94	1	1	94	118
Total ...	322	298	358,839	711	870	39,496	1,033	1,168	398,335	367,407

94. A similar comparison is given as regards the number and tonnage of vessels entering and clearing from the ports of Georgetown, New Amsterdam, Springlands, and Barima, respectively:—

Port.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	No.		Tons.		No.		Tons.	
	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.	1905-6.	1906-7.
Georgetown.. ..	509	474	391,690	361,565	495	477	391,967	361,896
New Amsterdam	14	11	4,832	1,252	14	13	2,262	1,748
Springlands	238	350	1,536	4,209	236	352	1,599	4,072
Morawhanna	272	333	277	381	272	333	277	381
Total	1,033	1,168	398,335	367,407	1,017	1,175	396,105	368,087

95. The number and tonnage of vessels entering and clearing from the ports of the Colony during each of the past five years are as follows:—

Year.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902-1903	1,310	365,146	1,285	364,385
1903-1904	1,193	396,160	1,190	397,372
1904-1905	1,050	432,663	1,043	433,941
1905-1906	1,033	398,335	1,017	396,105
1906-1907	1,168	367,407	1,175	368,087

REVIEW OF THE LEGISLATION OF THE COLONY OF BRITISH GUIANA FOR THE YEAR, 1906.

96. Of the fifteen Ordinances passed during the year, ten are public general statutes and five may be classed as private or local statutes.

97. The following are the principal Public Ordinances:—

Food and Drugs (No. 3).—This Ordinance amends the Sale of Food and Drugs Ordinance, 1892, by prescribing standards of purity to which a number of articles in ordinary daily use, such as butter, milk, coffee, tea, flour, bread, &c. must conform, and to which, if they do conform, no proceedings for adulteration in respect of them can be maintained. The standards are taken from similar legislation in the United States, and were enacted in order to settle questions which frequently arise in proceedings for adulteration as to whether a particular article is or is not “of the nature, substance and quality demanded by the purchaser.”

Destitute and Criminal Immigrants (No. 5).—This Ordinance amends one passed in 1896 (No. 4 of 1896), for the purpose of excluding undesirable immigrants arriving in the Colony, by enacting provisions as to criminals who have been convicted in other British Colonies and giving power to exclude them in the same manner as alien criminals can be under an Ordinance passed in 1886 (No. 2 of 1886).

Wills (No. 12).—This Ordinance, probably the most important passed during the year, amends the law relating to wills by abolishing certain restrictions on disposing power imposed by the Roman Dutch law, and generally assimilates the law on the subject to that of England. So far as the making of a will is concerned, the Roman Dutch law is now practically abrogated in this Colony, and English law substituted, and in this connection it may be interesting to note that the “*Lex hac Edictali*” is in terms repealed by Section 10 of the Ordinance, a British Legislature thus repealing a Roman statute.

The annual volume of the Ordinances for the year is for the first time issued in the same form as the annual volumes of the English statutes, except that no distinction is made between public and private Ordinances, and the private and local Ordinances are numbered and printed along with the public ones. A table of the titles of all the Ordinances passed is prefixed to the volume and a table stating the effect of the year's legislation upon former Ordinances, and an index is added at the end. The size of the page has been reduced to that of the English statutes, and the volume is handier and more convenient for use than the volumes issued in former years.

EDUCATION.

98. The State-aided primary schools at the end of the year numbered 220, with 29,407 children on the books, with an average daily attendance of 17,871. The cost of maintenance was £26,541 16s. 0½d., distributed as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	Per cent.
Administration and Inspection ...	2,650	6	1	— 9·98
Stationery, Office, and Miscellaneous ...	102	14	8	— ·39
Agricultural Instruction ...	711	18	7½	— 2·68
Grants-in-aid ...	23,076	16	8	— 86·95
	£26,541	16	0½	

99. Not less than nine-tenths of the grants must be paid to the teachers and assistant teachers. The remaining tenth may be retained by the manager for providing a school-house, and furnishing it. Four shillings and fourpence-halfpenny is paid for each pass in writing and arithmetic; 2s. 1d. for

each pass in sewing. A maximum of 4s. 4½*d.* for each pass in reading, with full proficiency, is also paid; 4s. 2*d.* for practical work in gardens by Standards IV., V., and VI., and the same for geography; 2s. 1*d.* for the same standards in elementary hygiene; 4s. 2*d.* for nature study in all standards, and 1s. 0½*d.* for singing and for drill; 4s. 2*d.* in Standards III. to VI. for English; and an attendance grant of \$3 for every 30 children presented for examination. First-class certificated teachers receive in addition a salary of £50 per annum, second-class £37 10s., and third-class £20.

100. Secondary education is provided for in the case of boys by the Government institution known as Queen's College, maintained by an annual vote of the Combined Court. The staff consists of a principal, of a second master (both of whom must be graduates in honours of one of the universities of the United Kingdom), and of three assistant masters. There is also a Science Department in charge of a "Professor of Chemistry," with an assistant demonstrator.

101. There are a few private secondary schools in the Colony. The total average attendance at these may be estimated at 200.

102. Six Government primary scholarships are competed for every year, three by boys, and two by girls, under 13, from Government aided schools only, and one for a boy or girl from private schools only. There are also two Mitchell Scholarships, one for boys, one for girls, established by private bequest, of the annual value of £15. And finally, there is the Guiana Scholarship awarded annually on the result of the Cambridge Senior Local Examination. The value of the scholarship is £200 for three years, which may be extended for one year at the Governor's discretion.

104. Georgetown is a centre for the Cambridge University Local Examinations, and for those of Edinburgh and for the College of Preceptors. The matriculation and other ordinary degree examinations of the University of London may also be taken in the Colony.

105. The secondary education of girls is left mainly to private enterprise. There are several girls' schools doing excellent work.

106. Prizes in money are given to girls who do well in the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the Guiana Scholarship is open to them as well as to boys.

107. Out of 154 candidates examined from this Colony at the last Cambridge Local Examinations, 90 passed. The honours and distinctions gained were:—

SENIOR AND JUNIOR GRADE.

8 Honours (with various distinctions).

PRELIMINARY GRADE.

8 Honours (with various distinctions).

INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

108. Under Ordinance No. 1 of 1852 provision is made for the “establishment of industrial and reformatory schools and for the care and education of destitute vagrant children.”

109. At the Orphan Asylum, which is administered under this Ordinance, there were on the 31st March 52 boys and 30 girls. The daily average number of inmates of both sexes was 76, as compared with 97 in the previous year. The net cost of each child per day was $8\frac{1}{2}d$.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

110. There is one lunatic, one leper, asylum, and five public hospitals in the Colony. The scale of fees is very reasonable, and those who cannot afford to pay receive gratuitous treatment. There are also dispensary hospitals in the gold districts, and dispensaries in the upper parts of the principal rivers.

111. The following return shows the number of cases dealt with in the several hospitals and asylums of the Colony during the year:—

	Remaining on 1st April 1906.	Admitted in 1906-7.	Discharged.			Died.	Daily average in 1906-7.	Percentage of deaths on total treated.
			Cured.	Relieved.	Not Relieved.			
Georgetown	455	11,671	3,902	6,147	483	1,125	491	9.2
New Amsterdam ..	121	2,796	333	1,995	118	332	130	11.3
Suddie	63	1,167	605	385	29	167	68	12.7
Bartica	4	247	138	74	12	21	8	8.3
Morawhanna	8	564	45	366	10	44	15	7.5
Lunatic Asylum ..	736	126	50	—	—	62	755	7.1
Leper Asylum	420	115	—	—	49	84	393	15.7
Total	1,817	16,685	5,173	8,967	701	1,825	1,860	9.8

112. In addition to the above, 89,317 persons received treatment as out-patients.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

113. The daily average number of patients during the year was:—Males, 478; females, 277; total, 755, as against:—

Males, 471; females, 264; total, 735; in the previous year. The admissions numbered 126; males 57, females 69. The discharges, recovered and relieved, 50. The number of deaths was:—Males, 31; females, 31; total, 62.

114. The inmates are in every way encouraged to work, and the produce from the farm at the institution and of work done by inmates during the year, is valued at £2,529.

115. Manual restraint, further than interference between patients quarrelling, or to prevent injury, is not resorted to.

116. The total cost of the Institution was £10,909, exclusive of the salaries of the medical officers.

LEPER ASYLUM.

117. The system of segregation continues to be enforced as far as possible. There were in the institution 420 inmates on the 1st April, 1906; 307 males, 113 females. Of males there were admitted during the year 82, and re-admitted 15; of females 18 were admitted and none re-admitted. In the previous year the figures were:—Admitted, males, 59, re-admitted, males, 9; females admitted, 27; re-admitted, 2. Total on 31st March, 1907, 377. The deaths numbered 84; and the discharges 49. The indoor and outdoor work was carried on as usual; the net cost of the institution was £4,712, exclusive of the medical officer's salary.

POOR-HOUSE.

118. There were 796 inmates in the Alms House, Georgetown, where the only institution of this sort in the Colony is situated. On the 31st March, 1907, the daily average was 733, as against 653 in the previous year. The deaths were:—Males, 266; females, 109; total, 375. The percentage of deaths was 21·60, as compared with 22·03 in the previous year.

119. The expenditure on the institution for the year was £488 13s. 4d. more than in the previous year, the cost of each inmate being at the rate of 6d. per diem, the same as in the previous year, and totalling £6,379 2s. 2d. A sum of £5,432 9s. 11d. was disbursed in out-door relief throughout the Colony among 1,916 persons, a number slightly less than that similarly helped in the previous twelve months.

SAVINGS BANK.

120. There is not much variation as regards number of depositors or value of deposits. In the case of the Treasury Savings Bank the number is slightly above last year, while the amount deposited is rather less. Just the opposite is the case as regards the Post Office Savings Bank.

121. The figures are as follows:—

—	Number of Depositors.	Amount at Credit of Depositors, 31st December.
Treasury Savings Bank—		£
1905	13,750	224,894
1906	14,067	224,167
Post Office Savings Bank—		
1905	9,966	66,593
1906	11,192	75,935

122. The investments on account of the Treasury Savings Bank stand at £222,895, as against £230,725 in the previous year. The investments on account of the Post Office Savings Bank stand at £71,890, as against £63,765 in 1905.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

PRISONS.

123. The total number of prisoners committed was 4,836, as against 5,215 in 1905-06. Of these, 3,680 were committed for purposes of penal imprisonment, as against 3,701. The daily average number of prisoners, including convicts in the prisons of the Colony, was 520·93, as compared with 561·40 in 1901-02, 535·52 in 1902-03, 539·66 in 1903-4, 599·63 in 1904-05, 618·22 in 1905-06.

124. There were in custody in all the prisons on 31st March, 504 prisoners, viz.:—465 male prisoners, including convicts, and 39 female prisoners. The total number in custody on 31st March of the previous year was 611.

125. There were three deaths from natural causes.

126. The total amount expended was £11,151 6s. 10½d., as compared with £12,219 in the preceding year.

127. The average gross cost per head for convicts and ordinary prisoners in all the prisons was £21 8s. 1½d., the net cost being £15 3s. 4d., as compared with £19 15s. 3½d. and £15 1s. 9½d., respectively, in the previous year.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

128. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates during the year was smaller than in the previous year, being 23,937 as compared with 24,822. Offences against the person and prædial larceny were:—Offences against the person 2,318, against 2,141; for prædial larceny 59, against 231; offences against property other than prædial larceny are lower than the previous year,

as also those classed as "other offences." There is power to flog for prædial larceny in districts proclaimed by the Governor-in-Council, and it has been found necessary to exercise this power in one of the magisterial districts.

129. The convictions before the Supreme Court were 79, as compared with 82 in the previous year. There were eight convictions for murder and one for attempt of murder, five for manslaughter, two for unnatural offences, fifteen for other offences against the person, twenty-five for offences against property, and twenty-one for miscellaneous offences.

VITAL STATISTICS.

130. No census has been taken since 1891, when the population of the Colony was returned at 278,328. It is estimated that the population on the 31st December, 1906, had reached 306,959, in the proportion of 160,664 males to 146,295 females.

131. The birth-rate and the death-rate per thousand in each of the last five years for the whole Colony was as follows:—

				Birth-rate.	Death-rate.
1902	...	...	...	33·4	25·1
1903	...	...	...	29·33	28·9
1904	...	...	...	30·3	28·8
1905	...	...	...	33·6	27·4
1906	...	...	...	32·9	28·8

132. The death-rate of the city of Georgetown in the year of report was 42·2 per 1,000.

133. The high rate of infantile mortality still continues, but it is to be hoped that the recommendations of the Mortality Commission, when fully given effect to, will result in an appreciable decrease being shown.

134. The mortality among children under one year of age for every thousand children born was for:—

(a) The whole Colony	...	...	...	201
(b) The city of Georgetown	...	...	...	300
(c) The Blacks	...	...	...	221
(d) The East Indians	...	...	...	192

PUBLIC HEALTH.

135. There was no epidemic during the year.

136. Malarial fever was, as usual, prevalent throughout the whole Colony, and was responsible for 21 per cent. of the deaths.

137. Anchylostomiasis continued to show itself extensively on the sugar estates and in villages, and many of the previous measures for combating this disease were continued and improved, with good results. Other diseases responsible for the death-rate were tuberculosis, diarrhoea, and dysentery, pneumonia, bronchitis and malarial fever, as stated above.

CLIMATE.

138. *Rainfall*.—The rainfall in each of the last five years was:—

	Inches.
1902-1903	94·36
1903-1904	104·43
1904-1905	85·75
1905-1906	74·05
1906-1907	95·51

139. The highest rainfall on any one day during 1906-07 was 3·24 inches, and the total for the year was above the average for the last twenty-five years.

140. *Temperature*.—The mean maximum temperature in the shade for the year was 85·3° Fahr.; the mean maximum in the sun being 140·6°. The mean minimum at night was 75·5°.

POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

141. The estimated number of articles posted last year was 2,829,018, being an increase of 67,850 on the number for 1905-06, when 2,761,168 were dealt with.

142. The inland money orders showed an increase:—

Number, 1906-07 ...	58,277	...	1905-06 ...	56,691
Amount „ ...	£83,369	...	„ ...	£76,382

143. There is a falling off in the value of the issued, and an increase in the value of the paid foreign orders.

Issued, 1906-07 ...	£26,695	...	1905-06 ...	£30,484
Paid „ ...	8,022	...	„ ...	7,315
Total „ ...	£34,717	...	„ ...	£37,799

144. British Postal Orders to the number of 18,676 were sold to a total value of £9,517 16s. 7d. Money may now be sent to the Colony by means of British postal orders; the sum so sent during 1906-07 amounted to £1,013 0s. 8d.

OCEAN MAIL SERVICE.

145. An inland postal order system was inaugurated on the 1st February, 1907. The number of orders sold during February and March was 2,139, value \$4,902·76.

146. The inland parcel post service continues to grow. In 1906-7 12,325 parcels were dealt with, as against 9,842 for 1905-6. Foreign parcels decreased from 14,720 in 1905-6 to 13,992 in the year of report.

147. The number of inland telegrams sent was in excess of the previous year, the figures being 65,985 as compared with 57,883.

148. An agreement was entered into with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company in August, 1906, for a fortnightly Inter-Colonial Mail Service between Barbados, St. Vincent, Grenada, and British Guiana. The contract was liable to be terminated

by either the Government or the contractors on three months' notice. The agreement remained in force until the end of the financial year, when it was terminated. The mails for the United Kingdom were forwarded from Barbados by steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. A contract for the conveyance of mails has since been entered into, and the Colony once more enjoyed regular mail service.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

149. There are no Imperial troops stationed in the Colony. The Colony maintains a semi-military police force, a militia force, and a volunteer force.

150. The strength of the former on the 31st March was 664 officers and men, and 40 mounted police.

151. The strength of the militia was 176, with a reserve of 452. There is one company of infantry and one of artillery. The expenditure for the year, including the band, amounted to £4,661 19s. 1d. The volunteers consist of two companies and number 146.

152. The total expenditure of the police force was £48,102 6s. 8d., and the Colony's share of fire brigade expenses £3,269 6s. 5d., as compared with a total of £47,345 4s. 2d. in 1903-04.

153. The rural constabulary force, auxiliary to the police, numbered 1,194.

IMMIGRATION.

154. The number of immigrants introduced from India during the year was:—Males, adults 1,388, children 146; females, adults 603, children 106; giving a total number of souls of 2,243.

155. In 1905-06 the number introduced was 2,681.

156. Two ships with East Indian coolies for repatriation left the Colony, carrying 1,410 souls, who took with them remittances totalling £56,661 5s. 0d. and jewellery valued at £833 6s. 8d.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

1. The business of the Colony for the year under report proved satisfactory. At the close of the financial year the accounts of the Colony showed a balance in favour of revenue of £21,692. The Floating Debt, which on the 1st April, 1906, stood at £15,217, has been extinguished, and the Colony had to its credit on the 1st April last a sum of £6,475, this being the first time since the year 1886, when the books showed a credit balance of £5,458 2s. 8½d., that the Colony has had a balance on the right side.

2. The position of the staple agricultural industry of the Colony has not been free from anxiety. At the close of the

financial year the owners of sugar estates were anxiously awaiting the decision of the Imperial Government in regard to the renewal of the Brussels Convention, and pending the hoped-for renewal of the Convention, expenditure on improvements was being curtailed. At the time of writing news has reached the Colony that the Convention will not be renewed. It is as yet too early to estimate the extent to which the industry will be affected by this decision.

3. The output of gold for the year showed a decrease on last year's production due to the closing down of the hydraulic work at Omai, and to the exceptionally heavy rains which fell throughout the last three months of the year. It is reported, however, that the prospects of the industry continue to be good. The diamond industry has done no more than "mark time" during the year under report.

4. The development of the rice industry has steadily continued, and the industry can now be regarded as one of substantial importance. The importation of this article of food has again fallen, while the amount exported to the neighbouring Colonies and French Guiana has exceeded that sent out of the Colony in all previous years taken together. It may be remarked that, owing to the scarcity of labour, the industry has, up to the present, been conducted almost entirely on the tenant-farmer system. This want of labour has naturally increased with the development of the industry, but there have been evidences that attention will before long be given to the employment of labour-saving appliances for the purpose of rendering cultivation on a large scale practicable. During the year several new and well-equipped factories for milling rice were erected.

5. The potentialities of the Colony as a rubber-producing country have continued to receive attention. At the close of the year careful consideration was being given to the framing of regulations for the leasing of Crown land for the cultivation of this product, and arrangements were being made for the establishment by the Government of Botanical Stations in outlying districts for the purpose of extending the experiments in the cultivation of different kinds of rubber trees which have been carried on at the Botanical Gardens and at Onderneeming, and for providing an increased supply of seeds and seedlings to meet the demands of the public.

6. Towards the close of the year under report the representative of a syndicate including the most important manufacturers of citric acid in Europe, visited the Colony for the purpose of ascertaining the possibilities of the country for lime-growing on a large scale. As a result of his investigations a tract of 1,500 acres of Crown land was selected at "Agatash," on the Essequibo river in the neighbourhood of Bartica, and the syndicate has since received a grant for the area. The land chosen is stated to be admirably suited for

the purposes in view, and the prospects of successfully establishing this important new industry are generally considered to be promising.

7. As the result of a resolution of the Combined Court of the 3rd March, 1906, which recites that "it is the chronic complaint of the people that the Government will not assist them in cultivating the land in the Colony," and "that the number of unemployed is increasing," a Commission was appointed on the 26th March to "enquire into the best means of inducing and assisting the people to acquire and cultivate the lands of the Colony."

The Combined Court having voted the necessary funds, an attempt was made, in accordance with proposals of the Commissioners, to settle the unemployed on land in the Pomeroon River district.

Under the scheme the land selected for the first experiment was subdivided into 50 contiguous 4-acre lots, which it was decided should be allotted on the following terms and conditions:—

Each applicant to be given one lot free of charge, and to be provided also free of charge with the necessary agricultural implements; the work of empoldering and draining the block to be carried out by the applicants who would be paid for their labour at current market rates; one half of the wages earned by each applicant to be placed to his credit in the Savings Bank until the work of draining and empoldering was completed, when he would be paid five shillings a week until the sum so retained was exhausted. They would then be left to themselves to cultivate the land unaided with such economic plants as may be advised and supplied by the Department of Science and Agriculture.

It was decided that as soon as 50 applications were received, a start would be made, and the conditions on which the land would be allotted were then widely advertised.

But the attempt proved unsuccessful. Only four applications were received, three of which were from East Indians, and the scheme had to be abandoned.

8. The Commission appointed in June, 1905, to enquire into the general mortality of the Colony and more especially into the infantile mortality thereof, completed its labours during the year. The Commissioners' report, which is dated 12th May, 1906, proved to be a highly valuable and exhaustive one. The work of giving effect to the numerous recommendations made by the Commissioners is engaging the very careful and earnest attention of the Government.

GEO. D. BAYLEY,
Acting Assistant Government Secretary

18th September, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
518	Leeward Islands	1905-1906
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 589.

BRITISH GUIANA.

REPORT FOR 1907-8.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 550.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

1908.

[Cd. 3729.-33.] *Price 4d.*

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No. 589.

BRITISH GUIANA.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 550.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Georgetown, Demerara,
28th October, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Report on the Blue Book for the year 1907-8, which has been prepared by Mr. J. Hampden King, Assistant Government Secretary, together with two copies of the Blue Book.

I have, &c.,
F. M. HODGSON.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1907-8.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The revenue of the Colony in 1907-8 amounted to £548,293 5s. 9½*d.*, being £12,547 12s. 9½*d.* more than in the previous year, and for the tenth year in succession greater than the expenditure. The items which show the largest increases are Customs, £4,754; Sales of Crown and Colony Lands, £3,066; and Excise, £1,578. On the other hand the gold industry produced some £3,127 less than in the previous year. The reasons for this will be dealt with later on. The increase of £3,066, under "Sales of Crown and Colony Lands," is due to the realisation of property held by the Government as security for a loan to a corporation made in days gone by, and not to a larger sale of Crown land.

2. The expenditure for the year totalled £520,046 2s. 9½*d.*, being £5,992 16s. 6½*d.* more than the expenditure of the previous year, and £28,247 3s. less than the revenue for the year of report.

Revenue.

	1906-7.			1907-8.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Customs	331,863	4	3½	336,617	1	3½
Excise	101,840	13	10	103,418	9	10
Charges Judicial Proceedings, &c. ...	12,943	6	10½	12,330	14	4
Fees and Taxes	6,905	6	10½	8,254	16	4
Government Lands and Houses ...	2,994	10	7½	2,694	14	4
Government Establishments ...	10,712	12	1½	10,750	11	11
Post Office and Telegraphs ...	16,140	13	3½	17,767	10	3½
Crown Lands	9,733	12	8	11,802	16	10
Gold Industry	17,800	2	7½	14,673	18	3
Miscellaneous	7,936	17	3½	8,905	9	8
Interest	9,588	0	4	10,746	7	10
Sale of Crown and Colony Lands ...	174	13	7½	3,240	13	5
Repayment of Loans and Advances ...	7,091	18	6½	7,090	1	5½
Total	£535,745	13	0	£548,293	5	9½

Expenditure.

	1906-7.			1907-8.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
His Excellency the Governor ...	5,127	6	11½	4,751	5	1½
Legislature	262	18	9	188	16	0½
Government Secretariat	4,603	5	4½	4,723	16	6½
Carried forward...	9,993	11	1	9,663	17	8½

BRITISH GUIANA, 1907-8.

Expenditure—continued.

	1906-7.			1907-8.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	9,993	11	1	9,663	17	8½
Auditor General	3,740	5	8½	3,780	19	6
Receiver General, including Commis- saries.	12,454	0	1	12,160	0	7
Commissioner of Stamps	895	11	1	796	0	8
Customs	15,354	17	0½	15,427	9	7
Harbours	1,245	4	7½	1,095	15	11½
Pilotage	2,207	17	4½	2,330	9	11
Department of Lands and Mines ...	15,073	9	1	15,498	7	9½
Immigration Department	6,974	16	10½	6,745	10	5½
Central Board of Health	2,046	13	4	2,028	8	10
Registration of Births and Deaths ...	1,531	9	0	1,405	11	3
Commissioner, Pomeroon and Esse- quebo Rivers.	1,446	14	2	1,497	1	2½
North Western District	1,251	15	7½	1,343	6	4½
Judges	4,086	5	9½	4,091	6	1
Law Officers	2,561	12	2	2,604	14	3
Stipendiary Magistrates	12,888	6	0	12,846	0	5½
Administration of Justice	5,293	9	4½	4,710	9	11½
Official Receiver	891	1	11	928	17	6
Registrar	4,663	13	9½	4,837	14	8
Police	48,102	6	8	49,644	15	0
Fire Brigade	3,269	6	5	3,023	2	4½
Prisons	11,177	2	10½	11,585	18	1½
Ministers of Religion	20,146	4	4	19,929	0	1½
Poor	12,246	11	11½	13,475	1	4
Medical	30,084	6	8½	30,890	15	6½
Hospitals and Asylums	34,481	9	10	37,651	10	5½
Vaccination	163	8	5½	113	0	11
Queen's College	2,539	12	7½	2,645	4	1½
Primary Education	26,537	4	4	26,589	14	5½
Education—						
Miscellaneous	884	13	8	1,007	15	7½
Underneeming School	2,035	19	2	2,128	4	2½
Orphan School	1,136	11	11	1,098	11	9
Post Office	21,502	5	0½	22,696	18	9½
Science and Agriculture—						
Government Laboratory	7,695	15	9½	8,379	10	1½
Botanical						
Board of Agriculture						
Public Works—						
Staff Colonial Civil Engineer ...	6,564	7	8	6,571	17	10
Other Annually Recurrent	15,558	0	11	17,040	6	5
Extraordinary	6,982	5	7	3,593	16	8½
Roads	19,412	4	11	20,226	16	8
New Works	2,008	18	10	2,509	9	7
Municipal	10,001	1	2	9,732	4	1
Other Subventions	32,202	4	7½	33,480	8	10½
Militia and Volunteers	4,661	19	1	3,750	14	4
Pensions	37,935	19	5	40,552	3	3½
Miscellaneous	10,595	17	9	6,237	15	9½
Public Debt—						
Sinking Fund and Interest	41,343	15	5	41,350	9	7
Interest—Unfunded Debt	131	10	1	348	13	11
Unprovided	51	6	10½	—		
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£514,053	6	3	£520,046	2	9½

3. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the last five years are as follows:—

	Revenue.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1903-4	555,853	7	8	530,225	0	4½
1904-5	512,972	14	3	511,182	17	3½
1905-6	522,493	0	8	506,173	3	1½
1906-7	535,745	13	0	514,053	6	3
1907-8	548,293	5	9½	520,046	2	9½

TAXATION.

4. The Customs duties levied during the year were practically the same as those of the previous year, the only change of any importance being the reduction of the duty on kerosine oil from 1s. 0½d. to 6¼d. per gallon.

5. The Excise duty on rum and other locally manufactured spirit remained at 8s. 11½d. per proof gallon.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.

6. On the closing of the books on 31st March, 1908, the liabilities and assets of the Colony stood as follows:—

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Deposits	68,782	8	9
Unclaimed balances and dividends	7,988	10	8½
Cash held for investment for Repayment of Loans (Reserve Fund) and Sinking Funds	4,030	1	0½
Surplus	33,358	15	7
	£114,159	16	1

Assets.

Cash balance in Colony and in hands of Crown Agents	74,801	19	0
Advances	9,325	14	7½
Deposits invested	7,257	10	9½
Investments of surplus revenue, 1906-7	6,474	11	8
Investment of surplus cash at call	16,300	0	0
	£114,159	16	1

7. The balance in favour of the Colony is satisfactory, more especially when it is remembered that ten years ago the account showed a balance on the wrong side, in round figures, of £170,777. The adjustment has been effected principally by rigid economy in administration.

PUBLIC DEBT.

8. The public debt of the Colony on the same date as above was:—

	£
For sums borrowed for the construction of public works and public purposes	799,320
For sums borrowed by the Consolidated Immigration Loan Commissioners on the ultimate security of the revenues of the Colony ...	120,000
Total	<u>£919,320</u>

or £11,600 more than on the 31st March, 1907. The increase is accounted for by an issue of bonds to the extent of £12,500 for sea defence purposes, under the provisions of the East Demerara Sea Defence Ordinance (No. 7 of 1906), less a redemption of bonds due for payment aggregating £900.

9. Out of the £799,320 above noted, loans have from time to time been made to Corporations and Public Bodies. The sum now outstanding on this account is £135,784, and repayment is regularly and punctually made by the several debtors.

10. The sum of £218,036 17s. 6d. stood at credit of the Sinking Fund account at the end of the year, and provision is also regularly made for interest on the Colony's debt.

11. Taking the population of the Colony at 304,549 souls, the public debt, not including that portion of it raised for immigration purposes, amounts to £2 12s. 5½d. per head.

CURRENCY.

12. The currency consists of British gold, silver, and bronze, though there is little of the first named in circulation. Accounts are kept in dollars and cents—the dollar being equal to 4s. 2d. Notes are issued by the British Guiana and Colonial Banks in denominations of \$5, \$20, and \$100.

MUNICIPALITIES.

13. The two principal centres of population are the city of Georgetown, the capital of the Colony, on the Demerara River, and the town of New Amsterdam, on the Berbice River. The former has a population of some 53,000, and the latter, 7,000 souls.

14. Both Georgetown and New Amsterdam are well laid out and well drained, both are lighted by electricity, and are provided with telephone services; in the former there is also an efficient electric tram service.

15. The principal item of revenue is derived from a tax of two per cent. on the appraised valuation of lands and houses within the municipal boundaries, market fees, and water rates.

16. The revenue and expenditure of Georgetown for the past five years were in—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
1903-4	...	53,690	...	53,886
1904-5	...	53,081	...	49,116
1905-6	...	53,057	...	52,339
1906-7	...	54,596	...	51,159
1907-8	...	55,421	...	52,026

While for New Amsterdam the figures are—

		Revenue.		Expenditure.
		£		£
1903-4	...	13,264	...	10,908
1904-5	...	12,240	...	12,115
1905-6	...	9,821	...	10,023
1906-7	...	10,100	...	9,795
1907-8	...	10,369	...	9,920

17. At the close of the year of report the funded debt of the city of Georgetown was £61,520, and that of New Amsterdam £16,154.

18. Provision is made regularly each year for redemption of the proportion due, and for payment of interest. Georgetown so provided in 1907-8 a sum of £5,313, and New Amsterdam £1,130.

VILLAGE COMMUNITIES.

19. There are 82 incorporated villages and sanitary districts in the Colony under the general control of the Local Government Board, at whose head is the Principal Medical Officer of the Colony. These communities range in importance from the hamlet with a population of 100 to the fair-sized village with 5,200. The revenue collected by them for the year was £9,887, as against an expenditure of some £10,500. There was due to the Government for loans made £4,450. Provision is made yearly for the discharge of this liability.

20. The village communities continue to make progress in the management of their affairs, and the giving to them of a considerable measure of self-control has been amply justified.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS.

21. The goods imported into the Colony for the year were valued at £1,765,358, being some £74,554 more than the value of the imports for the previous year.

22. This year the classification for imports and exports, recommended by the Board of Trade as a consequence of the Colonial Conference, has been adopted, and as this classification differs from that of the previous year, a comparison between the two years is not attempted in tabular form.

23. Divided up under their several heads the imports appear as follows:—

	£
1. Food, drinks, and tobacco	638,258
2. Raw materials and articles mainly manufactured	160,505
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufac- tured	824,011
4. Miscellaneous	92,711
5. Bullion and coin	49,872

24. Of foodstuffs, drinks, &c., flour, dried or salted fish, pickled beef and pork, butter and butter substitutes, and canned goods were the principal items. Flour to the value of £194,078 came in, chiefly from the United States of America. Canada is, however, pushing her flour in the local market, and the importations are on the up-grade. The flour imported for the previous year was valued at £152,467; the higher figures of the year of report are due to slightly higher prices abroad, and to an increased consumption due to a scarcity of local grown provisions caused by adverse weather. The beef and pork imports are valued at £58,570; butter and its substitutes, £34,448; canned goods, £22,764; and salted or dried fish at £48,415. Malt liquors, wines, and spirits were valued at £50,861, while the value of tobacco is returned at £24,035.

25. Of raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured, the more important items are:—Coal, £30,776; lumber, £42,369; oats, £26,714; oils, £58,394.

26. The value of the oil imported was greater than last year by £13,709; the increased consumption of petroleum as a motive power accounts for this in great part.

27. Of articles wholly or mainly manufactured the more important items are:—Bags and sacks, £45,170; boots and shoes, £25,869; haberdashery and millinery, £50,544; hardware and cutlery, £2,253; linen, cotton, and woollen goods, £157,149; machinery, £74,318. Among miscellaneous items, live stock, Government stores, and unclassified goods account for the larger part of the importation, valued at £92,711.

28. Of the total imports, valued at £1,765,358, 52·42 per cent. came from the United Kingdom; 7·73 per cent. from Canada; 3·16 per cent. from other British possessions; 28·79 per cent. from the United States of America; 4·08 per cent. from other foreign countries; and 3·82 per cent. was transit trade.

29. The value of the imports for the past five years is as follows:—

	£
1903-4	1,656,024
1904-5	1,537,591
1905-6	1,662,205
1906-7	1,690,804
1907-8	1,765,358

EXPORTS.

30. The total value of goods exported from the Colony during the year was £1,711,543, being less by £131,564 than in the previous year. Of the total export, the value of the produce and manufacture of the Colony was £1,545,303, classified as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
1. Food, drinks, and tobacco	1,158,706	11	5½
2. Raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	116,135	15	10½
3. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	1,150	4	10½
4. Miscellaneous	27,043	11	11
5. Bullion and coin	239,240	5	9
6. Precious stones	3,026	17	6

31. The principal items making up class 1 are sugar, rum, molasses, rice, and cocoa. Sugar and its by-products, which represents some 73 per cent. of the total export of the colony, was less in quantity and of lesser value than in the previous year. The figures for sugar itself are:—

	Tons.	Value.
1906-7	114,951	£1,059,503
1907-8	100,737	1,004,025

32. Rum and molasses also show a decrease as compared with the previous year, the former of 701,908 gallons, and the latter 229,405 gallons. The decreased output of rum represents a value of some £11,600, and that of molasses £7,726. The export of rice has largely increased, being 6,977,877 lbs., or 3,503,365 lbs. more than in 1906-7. Five years ago the export of this grain was 18,740 lbs. only. The trade is almost entirely with the British West Indies. The quantity of rice imported has fallen from 48,348,068 lbs. in 1895 to 2,126,557 lbs. in 1907-8. Of raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured the principal are:—Balata, £76,778; charcoal, £8,716; gums, £178; hides, £2,560; rubber, £1,003; lumber, timber, and shingles, £24,229.

33. The exports under Class III. are small, and comprise leather, furniture, and citrate of lime. The last named is

a new item, and as the Colony is well suited for the growth of citrus fruits, there is promise that the exports of citrate of lime will largely increase in the near future.

34. The value of Colonial produce exported in each of the last five years is shown below:—

	£
1903-4	1,678,395
1904-5	1,855,714
1905-6	1,831,479
1906-7	1,759,280
1907-8	1,545,303

35. The trade for the year was distributed as follows:—

To the United Kingdom ...	36.19 per cent.
Canada	55.86 „
Other British Possessions	3.67 „
United States	1.83 „
Other Foreign Countries	2.45 „

36. The principal feature to be noticed here is the increase in the shipments to Canada, for which sugar is almost entirely responsible, no less than 87.11 per cent. of the sugar produced having been shipped to Canada, while the remainder went to the United Kingdom. The United States, which at one time took a very large proportion of the Colony's sugar, have practically closed their market to the Colony through the more favourable terms given to the sugar from Cuba and the Philippines.

37. From the above it appears that the bulk of the Colony's import trade was with the United Kingdom and the United States of America, while the bulk of the export trade was with the Dominion of Canada and the United Kingdom. Of the aggregate trade the United Kingdom obtained 44.31 per cent., the Dominion of Canada 28.82 per cent., and the United States of America 15.72 per cent. The balance of 11.15 per cent. was variously distributed among other countries.

AGRICULTURE.

38. As previously mentioned in the paragraphs dealing with the exports, the sugar crop was less than last year, the figures being 100,737 tons as against 114,951 tons. There was, too, a fall in the acreage under cane cultivation from 74,426 acres to 70,986 acres. This is principally due to the substitution of rice for sugar cane on a plantation on the west sea coast of the County of Demerara.

39. The Board of Agriculture continued its work at the Botanic Gardens on experimental cultivation of cane other than the Bourbon. The area on sugar plantations in cultivation with new varieties of canes has increased to 32,688 acres

for the year. Speaking generally, the experiments indicate that many varieties of sugar canes can be relied upon in the Colony to give yields of sugar in quantities equal to or greater than those obtained from the Bourbon, and that several varieties possess well-marked ratooning qualities.

SUBSIDIARY AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

Rice.

40. The acreage under rice increased, from 26,568 acres to 29,715 acres. The cultivation of this grain was first seriously taken up about 1898, when there were some 6,477 acres devoted to it, and the acreage has steadily increased year by year. The importation has fallen from 25,060,493 lbs., in 1898, to 2,126,557 lbs. this year, while in the same period the export has risen from nothing to 6,977,877 lbs., valued at £59,037. So far, the land has been prepared and the crop dealt with by manual labour, but proposals are maturing for the introduction of the latest labour-saving appliances. As a subsidiary industry to sugar, rice is taking a very important place.

Cacao.

41. The area under cacao was 1,761 acres—practically the same as last year. Possibly the very heavy weather during the earlier part of the year caused some curtailment of the area devoted to this crop. A broad and extensive belt of the Colony is undoubtedly capable of greatly increased production of cacao. The export was 60,105 lbs. as against 50,033 lbs.

Coffee.

42. The cultivation of coffee fell off from 1,460 acres to 993 acres. Practically the whole of the production is consumed locally.

Coconuts.

43. The area under coconuts continues to slowly increase—the cultivation is returned at 6,810 acres. Some 631,705 nuts were shipped during the year. There is a wide field open for extension of this cultivation.

Cotton.

44. Experiments with Sea Island, Egyptian, Caravonica, and local varieties of cotton have been continued. The experimental production of hybrids of Sea Island cotton and of the best varieties of our practically indigenous cottons has been pursued, and its results promise to be of much interest.

Rubber.

45. Much interest has been shown in the introduction of rubber cultivation on the coastlands of the Colony, and considerable areas of land, some of it newly empoldered land and some abandoned land on the sugar plantations, have been placed under rubber cultivation.

Cattle, &c.

46. The number of cattle in the Colony is estimated at 72,000, but as the majority roam in a semi-wild state over extensive tracts of country, the figures are necessarily only approximate. The export is small, only some 1,438, valued at £5,622, having been shipped during the year. The policy of importing pure-bred bulls, rams, &c., is being continued. Horses numbered 1,850; sheep, 17,200; goats, 13,500; swine, 13,200; donkeys, 5,750.

AGRICULTURAL BOARD.

47. The Board continues to direct its attention to the promotion of agricultural work generally. The Instructors in Agriculture have, as formerly, paid visits of instruction to the farmers and settlers in the several districts of the Colony, and their help and advice have been appreciated.

48. An experimental station for the cultivation of indigenous and imported varieties of rubber-yielding plants has been established in the North-Western District of the Colony, under the charge of the Director of Science and Agriculture.

MANUFACTURES.

49. Little besides sugar, rum, molasses, and molascuit is manufactured in the Colony. A certain quantity of leather is tanned, and there are two boot-making plants which are gradually extending their operations.

50. A part of the cacao grown is locally manufactured for consumption. The manufactured article is good of its kind, but there is only a limited local demand for it.

51. There are three ironwork foundries and machine shops, some steam sawmills, and woodworking factories.

52. Rice mills have been erected in several districts.

53. Matches, of the cheaper sort, are made locally, but in a quantity to supply only a very small portion of the local demand.

FISHERIES.

54. There is little to record under this head. Such fishing as is carried on is for the supply of the local market, and as an industry on commercial lines it is practically non-existent.

MINES.

55. The gold won during the year amounted to 67,209 ozs., or some 18,295 less than the output for the previous year. The decrease is due to the smaller returns from the alluvial workings. The fields originally worked are gradually being exhausted, and no new ones have been found to take their place. A large number of men previously engaged in the goldfields have now turned their attention to other pursuits, such as rice planting, &c., and prospection has practically been at a standstill.

56. Quartz mining was continued during the greater part of the year at the "Peters Mine" on the Puruni River. Some 8,916 tons of ore were crushed, from which 5,815 ozs. 13 dwts. 8 grs. of gold were won. A considerable amount of development work has been undertaken since the last report. Development work has also been steadily carried on at the Barima Mine. Dredging operations have continued on the Konawaruk River, and about 2,652 ozs. of gold were obtained by this method. The richer gravels of the higher parts of the river have not yet been worked, and better returns may confidently be looked for in the future.

57. The diamond workings yielded 29,007 stones, weighing 2,121 carats. This is a considerable decrease on the output for the previous year, when 65,903 stones, weighing 4,718 carats, were won. The quality of the stone this year is, however, on the whole, better than last year. The depressed condition of the diamond market has, of course, had its effect on the local industry.

CROWN LANDS AND FOREST INDUSTRIES.

58. During the year the question of the terms on which Crown land should be made available for rubber cultivation received careful consideration. Briefly stated, the following are the lines adopted:—Areas of any size will be leased for 99 years, with right to purchase, at 16s. 8d. per acre at the end of ten years' occupancy, if the conditions of lease are complied with.

The land to be free for 10 years; then rental at 10d. per acre for the next 5 years, and thereafter 2s. 1d. per acre per annum.

All rubber and balata obtained from the land during the first 10 years of occupancy to pay a royalty of 1d. per pound.

The lessee to plant the land to an average of not less than 60 trees to the acre, one twenty-fifth part of the area each year until he has planted ten twenty-fifths, and this he must maintain in good order.

59. It may be noted that land suitable for rubber cultivation is available on all the large rivers and tributary streams, and

within easy communication of Georgetown, the chief city of the Colony. As an immediate result of the adoption of the conditions above mentioned, 4,000 acres of land on the banks of the Aruka and Kaituma Rivers have been leased to a corporation for rubber cultivation, and further developments in this direction are pending.

60. The output of balata for the year was 973,269 lbs., as against 634,242 last year.

61. The rubber produced was also greater, 6,873 lbs. having been gathered as against 2,563.

62. The price of balata was fairly maintained, while rubber fell; the value of the latter is, however, again going up.

63. Licences for the collection of balata were previously limited to three years, but in response to a general demand for a longer period they are now being issued for 15 years, and 164 more licences were taken out than in the previous year.

64. The output of timber, shingles, and charcoal was in advance of the previous year.

65. 224 licences and permissions to cut wood were issued.

66. During the year 232 grants, covering an area of 6,811 acres, were issued. Of these 62 were homestead grants of 5 acres each.

SHIPPING.

67. Details of the shipping will be found in the return below. It will be seen that there is an increase in the number and tonnage, as regards both steam and sailing vessels, entered at the ports of the Colony. As regards the former class, the increase is in great measure due to the steamers of the East Asiatic and Elder Dempster Lines, which now visit the Colony. As regards the sailing craft, there does not seem to be any special reason for the increase beyond the ordinary fluctuation of trade:—

Nationality.	Steam Vessels.			Sailing Vessels.			Total.		
	No.		Tonnage.	No.		Tonnage.	No.		Tonnage.
	1906-7.	1907-8.		1906-7.	1907-8.		1906-7.	1907-8.	
British ...	171	207	244,138	398	676	18,896	569	883	263,034
French ...	26	25	12,506	1	12	41	27	37	12,547
Dutch ...	55	57	40,865	118	134	950	173	191	41,815
Norwegian ...	42	43	38,381	3	4	1,552	45	47	39,933
Argentine ...	1	—	571	—	—	—	1	—	571
American ...	—	—	—	4	5	2,741	4	5	2,741
Portuguese ...	—	—	—	4	2	656	4	2	656
Russian ...	—	—	—	6	9	1,791	6	9	1,791
Danish ...	—	9	3,230	—	—	—	3	9	3,230
Swedish ...	3	—	—	1	—	479	1	—	479
Venezuelan...	—	—	—	334	190	492	334	190	492
Spanish ...	—	—	—	1	1	118	1	1	118
Total ...	298	341	339,691	870	1,033	27,716	1,168	1,374	367,407
			363,829			30,377			394,206

68. Ships, taking steam and sailing together, of the following nationalities show an increase over the previous year:—British 55·18 per cent., American 25·00 per cent., French 37·04 per cent., Dutch 10·40 per cent., Russian 50·00 per cent., Norwegian 4·44 per cent., Danish 200·00 per cent. There was a decrease as regards the following:—Portuguese 50·00 per cent., Venezuelan 41·86 per cent., other foreign 50·00 per cent. The large increase of vessels under the Danish flag is due to the advent of the ships of the East Asiatic Line alluded to above.

69. As regards outward-bound ships, 337 steamers, aggregating 362,109 tons, and 1,032 sailing vessels, aggregating 30,565 tons, left the Colony in the year, as against 299 steamers, of a total tonnage of 340,691 tons, and 876 sailing vessels, of a total tonnage of 27,416 tons in the previous year.

There is nothing here calling for comment.

70. For the last five years, the totals for arrivals and departures are as follows:—

<i>Entered.</i>					
			No.	Tons.	
1903-4	...	...	1,193	...	396,160
1904-5	...	...	1,050	...	432,663
1905-6	...	...	1,033	...	398,335
1906-7	...	...	1,168	...	367,407
1907-8	...	...	1,374	...	394,206

<i>Cleared.</i>					
			No.	Tons.	
1903-4	...	...	1,190	...	397,372
1904-5	...	...	1,043	...	433,941
1905-6	...	...	1,017	...	396,105
1906-7	...	...	1,175	...	368,087
1907-8	...	...	1,369	...	392,674

LEGISLATION.*

71. During the year 34 Ordinances were passed. Of these one was in the nature of a private Ordinance, and the rest were public general Ordinances. Of the latter, the more important are the following:—

Clergy List (No. 4).—This Ordinance provides for what is really the Ecclesiastical grant made annually out of the public

* Condensed from a report on the Legislation of British Guiana for the year 1907, by Sir T. Crossley Rayner, K.C., Attorney-General.

revenue. This Ordinance is passed for a specified term of years, in this case seven, under the authority of a resolution of the Combined Court, which thereby pledges itself to vote annually the funds necessary to pay the grants during the specified period. Provision is made for the Churches of England and Scotland, the Roman Catholic Church, and Non-conformist Churches.

Quarantine (No. 9).—By this Ordinance the Colony adopted the scheme for a Central Quarantine Authority for the West Indies, and made provision for being represented upon it. Under the scheme the Central Quarantine Authority has power to interpret, in case of doubt, the meaning of any phrase in the Convention entered into by British Guiana and most of the West Indian Colonies in 1904, and to decide, in case of doubt, whether any disease occurring in any of the Colonies, parties to the Convention, is an infectious disease under the Convention.

Indictable Offences (Procedure) (No. 11).—This Ordinance enables magistrates to award compensation to persons charged before them with indictable offences, where the charge is dismissed and in the magistrate's opinion is frivolous or vexatious.

Local Government (No. 13).—This Ordinance consolidates and amends the law relating to local government, and places the supervision of local government in the hands of a central body called the Local Government Board, which has certain defined powers over Local Authorities. The Ordinance creates four different kinds of areas for the purposes of local government, viz.:—(1) Urban Sanitary Districts; (2) Village Districts; (3) Country Districts; and (4) Rural Sanitary Districts. The aim of the Ordinance is to encourage the people of each locality to undertake the management of their own affairs, and for this purpose to provide different kinds of local authorities suited to the different needs and circumstances of each locality, from the completely organized Town Councils in the large centres of population, which act much as Municipal Corporations do in England, down to the sparsely populated rural districts, in which the Local Government Board enforces only such elementary regulations as are necessary.

Money Lenders (No. 16).—This Ordinance is practically a transcript of the Money Lenders Act, 1900 (63 and 64 Vict. c. 51), and was enacted to deal with much the same difficulties which led to its enactment in England.

Bills of Exchange (No. 17).—This Ordinance enacts for the Colonies the Bills of Exchange (Crossed Cheques) Act, 1906 (6 Edw. 7 c. 17), and brings the Colonial law as to bills of exchange up to date.

Music and Dancing (No. 21).—This Ordinance is based on similar provisions contained in the Public Health Acts Amend-

ment Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vict. c. 59 s. 15) for the regulation of public entertainments.

Steam Boilers Regulation (No. 25).—There having been several fatal boiler explosions in the Colony, this Ordinance was passed to require the periodical examination of all boilers, so as to prevent boilers which are defective or have become weak from long use being worked. It is based on provisions contained in the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (1 Edw. 7 c. 22 s. 11).

Registration of Clubs (No. 25).—There have lately sprung up in the Colony a number of clubs, some being little more than drinking places. Accordingly this Ordinance has been passed to require the registration of all clubs where intoxicating liquors are supplied to the members, in the same manner as is now required in the United Kingdom. The Ordinance is modelled on the Acts passed for the same purposes in Scotland (3 Edw. 7 c. 25 ss. 77-90) and Ireland (4 Edw. 7 c. 7).

EDUCATION.

72. There were 223 State-aided primary schools at the end of the year, with 30,888 children on the books. The average daily attendance was 18,457, and the cost of maintenance £26,605 16s. 0½d.

73. Under the law not less than nine-tenths of the grants must be paid to the teachers and assistant teachers. The remaining tenth may be retained by the manager for providing a school-house, and furnishing it. 4s. 4½d. is paid for each pass in writing and each pass in arithmetic; 2s. 1d. for each pass in sewing. A maximum of 4s. 4½d. for each pass in reading, with full proficiency, is also paid; 4s. 2d. for practical work in gardens by Standards IV., V., and VI., and the same for geography; 2s. 1d. for the same Standards in elementary hygiene; 4s. 2d. for nature study in all Standards, and 1s. 0½d. for singing and 1s. 0½d. for drill; 4s. 2d. in Standards III. to VI. for each pass in English; and an attendance grant of \$3 for every 30 children presented for examination. First class certificated teachers receive in addition a salary of £50 per annum; second class £37 10s., and third class £20.

74. There are three model gardens controlled by the Director of Science and Agriculture, and 80 school gardens attached to various schools under the Primary Education Department. An impetus is given by these means to agriculture generally.

The work is taken up heartily by managers, teachers, and pupils, and satisfactory results are hoped for.

75. At Queen's College, which is maintained by the Government, sound secondary education for boys may be obtained. There is a staff of five, of whom three are graduates in honours of either Oxford or Cambridge. The Science Department is in charge of the Director of Science and Agriculture, with an Assistant Demonstrator.

76. There are a few private secondary schools in the Colony. The total average attendance at these may be estimated at over 200 pupils.

77. Six Government primary scholarships are competed for every year, three by boys, and two by girls under 13, from Government-aided schools only, and one for a boy or girl from private schools only. There are also two scholarships, one for boys and one for girls, of the annual value of £15. And finally, there is the Guiana Scholarship, awarded annually on the result of an examination by the Cambridge Syndicate. The value of the scholarship is £600, extending over three, four, or five years.

78. Georgetown is a centre for the Cambridge University Local Examinations, and for those of Edinburgh, and for the College of Preceptors. The matriculation and other ordinary degree examination of the University of London may also be taken in the Colony.

79. The secondary education of girls is carried on almost entirely by private enterprise. There are several girls' schools doing excellent work.

80. Prizes in money are given to girls who do well in the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the Guiana Scholarship is open to girls as well as boys. This year the prizes amount to \$20.

81. Out of 123 candidates examined from this Colony at the last Cambridge Local Examination, 66 passed. The honours and distinctions gained were:—

SENIOR AND JUNIOR GRADE.

5 Honours (with various distinctions).

PRELIMINARY GRADE.

10 Honours (with various distinctions).

INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

82. The care and education of destitute and vagrant children are provided for by the industrial and reformatory school established by Ordinance No. 1 of 1852.

83. There were on the 31st March last 51 boys and 26 girls in the orphan asylum, which is conducted under the above named Ordinance. The daily average number of inmates of both sexes was 62.42, as compared with 84.02 in the previous year. The net cost per child per day was 11½*d*.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

84. The Colony maintains a lunatic and a leper asylum and five hospitals. There are also dispensary hospitals and dispensaries in the more populous of the outlying districts. The fees charged are very reasonable, and those unable to pay are treated free.

85. At the opening of the year there were 683 patients in the hospitals, and 16,845 were admitted during the year.

86. The daily average in hospital was 710, and the deaths numbered 2,084.

87. In addition to the patients admitted to the hospitals, 66,234 persons received outdoor treatment. The principal causes of death were malarial fevers, diarrhoeal diseases, bronchitis and pneumonia, phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis, and kidney diseases.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

88. The daily average number of inmates in the lunatic asylum was 754, of whom 479 were males, and 275 were females. These figures are practically the same as for the previous year. The admissions numbered 144, as against 126 in the previous year. 48 were discharged as recovered, while 96 died in the institution.

89. A large proportion of the work of the institution, such as the raising of farm produce, the care of pigs, baking, &c., is done by the inmates, who are in every way encouraged to work.

LEPER ASYLUM.

90. On the 1st April, 1907, there were 378 inmates:—268 males, and 110 females. There were admitted during the year, 102.

91. At the close of the year of report, there remained in the institution 403 souls, as against 377 on the 31st March, 1907.

POOR-HOUSE.

92. The one almshouse of the Colony is situate in **Georgetown**, and at the end of the year there were 755 inmates. The daily average was 761, as against 723 in the previous year.

93. The expenditure of the institution for the year was £7,410. In addition to this, a sum of £5,470 was disbursed in outdoor relief.

SAVINGS BANK.

94. In the savings banks conducted by the Treasury in the two principal towns, the amount at credit of depositors at the close of business on the 31st December was £214,949 8s. 10d., or £9,218 4s. 2½d. less than the amount so standing at the close of the previous year.

95. The amount of the deposits during the year was £3,644 less, and the total of withdrawals £5,137 more than in 1906. There was, however, a gain of 565 in the number of depositors, the smaller accounts increasing, while the bigger ones fell off in number.

96. Turning to the banks at the post offices throughout the Colony, an upward tendency is shown generally.

97. The amount at credit of depositors on 31st December was £81,546 5s. 6d., or £5,610 7s. 6d. more than on the corresponding date the year before.

98. The transactions during the year were heavier, both as regards deposits and withdrawals. The former amounted to £73,456 12s. 4½d., and the latter to £69,613, being £9,646 12s. 1½d. and £13,740, respectively, more than in the previous year. In this branch, too, there was an increase in the number of accounts, there being some 1,229 more than in 1906. The greater part of the new accounts are classed as ranging between £1 10s. and £10 8s. 4d.

99. There is no doubt that a large proportion of the savings of the people, which a couple of years ago lay in the savings banks earning, at the outside, 3 per cent. per annum, is now far more profitably used in rice-growing and other agricultural pursuits. This accounts for the falling off in deposits at the Treasury Banks, where the individual accounts, as a rule, are bigger than those of the Post Office Banks.

100. The Treasury Bank held investments to the value of £207,895 15s. 8d., and the Post Office Banks £75,015 11s. 8d.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

101. There were 5,034 persons committed to prison during the year, being 198 more than in the previous year; of the total, 4,298 were males, and 736 females. For purposes of penal imprisonment, 4,634 were received into the prisons, as against 3,680 in the previous year. The daily average in prison was 504·30, somewhat less than in the year before, when the daily average was 520·79.

102. The average gross cost per head for convicts and ordinary prisoners was £22 19s. 11d., and the net cost £15 10s. 7d.

103. It may be of interest to note that the question of introducing what is known as the Borstal system of dealing with juvenile-adult prisoners, is under consideration.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

104. The figures under this head are normal. The number of persons apprehended by the police or brought before the magistrates on summons was slightly higher than the year before—24,355, as against 23,937.

105. Prædial larceny cases have gone up from 57 in 1906-7 to 153 this year. In the great majority, if not all, of the rural districts, the house lots are situate a considerable distance from the cultivation lots, and this tends to encourage the prædial thief in spite of the fact that there is power to flog for this offence.

106. Fifty-two persons were convicted before the Supreme Court, but there was no conviction for murder, whereas in the previous year there were seven such convictions. The total number of cases in the higher Court fell from 108 in 1906-7 to 75 in 1907-8.

VITAL STATISTICS.

107. The last census was taken in 1891; the population of the Colony was then given as 278,328 souls. Since then there has been a yearly estimate made, and that for 1907 gives the population as on 31st December as 304,549. It is recognised that these figures are approximate only, and it has been settled to take a census in 1911. Of the total population 158,849 were males and 145,700 females.

108. The births registered during the year numbered 8,606, being 1,507 less than in 1906. This gives a rate per 1,000 of population of 28·3, which is lower than in any of the preceding five years, the rates in those years ranging from 29·33 in 1903

to 33·6 in 1905. There does not seem to be any special reason for the fall in the rate.

109. Turning to the death statistics, 11,262 deaths were recorded during the year, an increase of 2,418 on the previous year's figures.

110. The death-rate works out at 36·9 per 1,000 of population. The mean death-rate for the previous five years was 28·4.

111. The rate among children under one year continues very high, the mortality being 256 for every 1,000 born. The evils of illegitimacy and ignorant feeding are largely responsible for the deaths in this class of the community. A representative Commission has lately dealt with this matter, and it is hoped that the various measures that have been recommended and adopted will in due time result in an appreciable and very much to be desired fall in the death-rate among young children.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

112. There was no epidemic during the year, but the mortality was higher than in any of the previous ten years. There were a few sporadic cases of typhoid or enteric and black-water fevers, but the greater number of deaths were due, as usual, to malarial fevers, diarrhoeal diseases, bronchitis, and pneumonia, phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis. The rainfall during the year was exceptionally heavy and irregular, and this, no doubt, was a contributory cause to the rise in the death-rate.

CLIMATE.

113. *Rainfall.*—There was a very heavy rainfall during the first five months of the year, in each of which the average for the last 28 years was considerably exceeded. The total rainfall up to the end of May was 71 inches 40 parts. For the remaining seven months of the year the monthly rainfall was below the average. The total rainfall for the year was 109 inches 24 parts, which is 13 inches 73 parts greater than that for the previous year, and 16 inches 80 parts above the average for the last 28 years.

114. *Temperature.*—The mean maximum temperature in the shade was 85·2° Fahr., the mean maximum in the sun being 137·8°. The mean minimum at night was 74·8°.

115. The rainfall in each of the last five years was:—

	Inches.
1903-4	104·43
1904-5	85·75
1905-6	74·05
1906-7	95·51
1907-8	109·24

POSTAL, TELEGRAPHIC, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

116. The business of the Postal Department was fairly maintained during the year. The revenue collected was £29,499 14s. 3d., or £1,670 7s. 6½d. more than the previous year. With regard to articles posted, there is the usual fluctuation; the total number of articles posted is estimated at 25,509 less than in 1906-7, while of ordinary letters 14,131 more were dealt with. Postcards fell off by some 16,718, and printed matter went up by 9,477.

117. The transactions in inland money orders show an increase; 59,898, of a value of £93,651, having been issued, as against 58,277, valued at £59,898 in the previous year.

118. As regards foreign orders, the figures are practically the same as last year, the value of the orders issued being £25,534 and of those paid £8,140. British postal orders are sold and cashed in the Colony. The sales last year amounted to £8,500, and the value of the orders cashed was £1,109. The inland system of postal orders inaugurated on 1st February, 1907, has justified its existence; the value of issues during the year was £7,376.

119. The inland and foreign parcels post services show little variation; 13,282 parcels were dealt with in the former service, and 13,776 in the latter.

120. The number of local telegrams dealt with was 68,758, as against 65,985 in the year previous.

OCEAN COMMUNICATION.

121. A contract has been entered into between the Imperial Government and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company for a fortnightly mail service with the West Indies, with effect as from 30th June, 1907.

122. For conveyance of mails between Barbados and the United Kingdom, this Colony pays as follows:—

	s.	d.
Letters or postcards, per lb.	3	0
Other postal packets, per lb.	0	3
Parcel not over 3 lbs.	0	4
Parcel over 3 lbs. but not over 7 lbs.	0	8
Parcel over 7 lbs. but not over 11 lbs.	1	0

123. Under the contract entered into between the Crown Agents for the Colonies on behalf of British Guiana and certain of the West Indian Islands and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which came into force on the 10th September, 1907, this Colony secures connection with the ocean

service by means of a fortnightly service to and from Barbados. The subsidy payable in respect of this is £5,000 per annum.

124. Mails are also received with fair punctuality by the following lines:—

Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.
Pickford and Black Steamship Company.
Koninklijke West Indische Mail Dienst.

125. The electrical services have been satisfactorily maintained, and the revenue obtained from them has been satisfactory. The total number of messages sent over the telegraph lines was 68,758, compared with 65,985 in 1906-7. The total receipts from telegraphs and telephones during the year were £4,899.

126. The maintenance of the telegraph service in this Colony is complicated by the large and swift-flowing rivers that have to be crossed by cable.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

127. The police force, which is recruited from the general population and officered by Europeans, the militia, and volunteer forces were maintained during the year at their normal strength. The expenditure on the militia, including the band, was £3,481 6s. 7d. The expenditure on the volunteers was £269 7s. 4d.

IMMIGRATION.

128. The introduction of immigrants from India was continued during the year, 1,855 individuals being introduced. On the other hand, 1,195 individuals exercised their right to return to India, and these took with them remittances aggregating £12,144 15s. 10d., and jewellery valued at £2,013 6s. 8d.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

129. On the whole, the business of the Colony for the year may be considered satisfactory. On the closing of the books there was a balance of £12,547 12s. 9½*d.* in favour of revenue, and taxation had to some extent, at any rate, been reduced.

130. During the year the Imperial Government had under consideration the question of continued adherence to the Brussels Sugar Convention, and eventually notice was given to the other contracting parties that after the 1st September, 1908, the mother country could not continue to be a party to the Convention as far as the penal clauses are concerned. Sufficient time has not elapsed since this decision was arrived at to enable its effect on the staple industry of the Colony to be seen. At least, the feeling of uncertainty has been removed, and proprietors of sugar properties are now free to make their arrangements with a full knowledge of the situation as regards the home market.

131. The industry next in importance after sugar is rice, and the development of this industry has steadily continued. It is noticeable, however, that during the earlier years the increase in rice cultivation was not accompanied by any decrease, but by an increase in the areas returned as devoted to the cultivation of other products.

132. Since 1905, however, the increase in rice seems to have been accompanied by decrease in the areas under other products, and the total area occupied by subsidiary products has only slightly increased. It would, therefore, appear that the increase in rice cultivation is no longer wholly an addition to the resources of its producers.

133. As regards the gold industry, it has been marking time. Some few enterprises, which had either been freshly set on foot or revived, have been doing steady work, but the year has ended in a reduced production. For every square mile of gold-bearing country in the Colony that has been exploited, it may be said there are fifty that have never been trodden by the foot of the prospector. The colonist that proved the most successful prospector in the past, has now turned his attention to agriculture, and prospecting work is only being undertaken to a very limited extent.

134. In most districts of the Colony scarcity of labour prevailed during the year, and although there was a marked advance in the average rate of wages paid, tillage could not always be undertaken at the proper time, and crops could not always be gathered when they should have been.

135. A new feature of the report is the inclusion of a sketch map of the Colony, on which is shown the indicated auriferous areas, the areas licensed in connection with rubber and balata, railways and steamer routes, &c.

136. A geological handbook of the Colony, by Professor J. B. Harrison, C.M.G., F.G.S., has just been issued, which, along with a geological map of the northern portion of the Colony to accompany it, have been placed on sale in London at Messrs. Dulau and Company, of Soho, and at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington.

137. Copies of large-scale geological maps of the different gold districts can also be obtained from Messrs. Dulau, Stanford's Geological Establishment, Charing Cross, and from Messrs. Wyman and Sons, Limited, of Fetter Lane.

138. From Messrs. Wyman can also be obtained copies of the Annual Blue Book of the Colony, copies of the Ordinances relating to the acquisition of Crown lands, mining, the Customs duties, taxes, and of other local statutes and publications.

J. HAMPDEN KING,

Assistant Government Secretary.

22nd October, 1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from
the sources indicated on the title-page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907-1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907-1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent... ..	1907-1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Straits Settlements	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute... ..	1906-1907
585	Barbados	1907-1908
586	Somaliland Protectorate	"
587	Trinidad and Tobago	"
588	Sierra Leone	1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-08.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

Compiled from the most Recent Surveys in
the Department of Lands and Mines 1906.

Compiled from the most Recent Surveys in
the Department of Lands and Mines 1906.

SCALE

English Statute Miles

REFERENCE

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Railways.....

Steamer Routes.....

Post Offices

Government Stations.....C

Indian Reservations.....

Lied. Balata & Rubber

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Indicated Auriferous Areas. . . . - 1 - - - 1

Ordnance Survey, Southampton.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 552.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 515.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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1907.

[Cd. 3729.16] *Price 2d.*

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No. 552.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 515.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Belize,

4th November, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Colonial Secretary's Annual Report for the year 1906.

I have, &c.,

E. J. E. SWAYNE,

Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF BRITISH HONDURAS FOR THE YEAR 1906.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The financial returns in this report, except where otherwise stated, are for the year ended 31st March, 1906. The other returns are for the calendar year 1906.

On 1st April, 1905, the surplus on the general revenue account of the Colony was \$146,912.57.

(A.) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the financial years 1904-05 and 1905-06, under each head of revenue and service, respectively :—

General Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	Amount collected in the year 1904-05.	Amount collected in the year 1905-06.
	\$	\$
1. Customs	166,958.85	161,789.12
2. Light Dues	8,600.84	8,464.62
3. Internal Taxation	57,731.82	58,311.01
4. Revenues of Government Property ...	8,151.48	10,058.13
4a. Revenues of Government Property (special).	25,000.00	50,000.00
5. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	22,611.65	21,768.92
6. Post Office and Telegraphs	11,796.98	13,355.42
7. Interest	5,403.48	6,385.38
8. Reimbursements on account of Belize Town and Harbour Improvements.	149.54	143.54
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,291.97	1,013.15
Total Ordinary Revenue	307,696.61	331,289.29
10. Sale of Crown Lands	2,094.35	626.39
11. Casual Revenue	—	194.27
Total Revenue	309,790.96	332,109.95
Local Revenue :—		
Belize District	27,757.21	25,133.29
Corosal District	5,389.07	3,105.10
Orange Walk District	1,459.51	1,191.20
Stann Creek District	2,199.48	2,343.20
Toledo District	1,751.72	1,923.65
Cayo District	1,858.50	767.76
Total Local Revenue	40,415.49	34,464.20
Grand Total	350,206.45	366,574.15

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure, 1904-1905.	Expenditure, 1905-1906.
	\$	\$
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	10,533.19	10,533.19
2. Pensions	11,457.56	11,395.09
3. Governor	10,365.00	13,684.51
4. Colonial Secretary's Department ...	7,075.43	9,647.60
5. Treasury and Custom House	17,078.42	17,238.80
5A. Treasury and Custom House (Special expenditure).	—	3,597.30
6. Audit Department	2,433.47	2,328.83
7. Post Office and Telegraphs	22,919.49	28,463.02
8. Judicial	13,748.52	13,861.84
9. District Commissioners	15,000.04	15,059.65
10. Police	40,448.69	37,675.54
11. Volunteer Force	2,431.26	4,769.56
12. Prisons	12,424.97	11,490.63
13. Medical Department	24,487.18	25,416.87
14. Central Board of Health and Quarantine.	107.68	9,527.84
15. Education	15,660.33	16,567.91
16. Surveyor-General's Department ...	7,964.88	9,547.71
17. Botanic Station	2,112.02	2,396.58
18. Miscellaneous	5,381.25	5,484.30
29. Lighthouses	4,212.44	4,335.85
20. Colonial Engineer's Department ...	3,191.31	4,361.40
21. Public Works Recurrent	17,923.88	19,013.50
Total Ordinary Expenditure ...	246,957.01	276,397.52
22. Public Works Extraordinary	35,301.90	23,953.37
Total Expenditure ...	282,258.91	300,350.89
Local Expenditure :—		
Belize District	29,656.97	29,491.28
Corosal District	5,106.04	3,160.01
Orange Walk District	1,232.92	1,151.98
Stann Creek District	2,704.20	2,278.01
Toledo District	1,527.12	1,415.24
Cayo District	986.40	938.98
Total Local Expenditure ...	41,213.65	38,435.50
Grand Total	323,472.56	338,786.39

(B.) TAXATION.

No alteration was made in taxation.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years 1901-2 to 1905-6, inclusive, with notes on points of special interest.

—				General Revenue.	General Expenditure.
Year.				Amount.	Amount.
				\$	\$
1901-2	...	...	...	272,142	256,910
1902-3	...	...	...	259,600	252,242
1903-4	...	...	...	301,194	266,039
1904-5	...	...	...	309,790	282,258
1905-6	...	...	...	332,110	300,351

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The position of the Colony on the 31st March, 1906, in respect of its assets and liabilities, as compared with its position on the 31st March, 1905, is shown in the following table :—

General Revenue.

—					1904-5.	1905-6.
					\$	\$
Assets	...	...	...	...	245,658.03	261,477.18
Liabilities	...	...	...	...	98,745.46	82,805.55
Excess of Assets					146,912.57	178,671.63

At the end of the Calendar year 1906, the surplus on general revenue account stood at \$271,935.51, of which \$67,248.35 was invested. This surplus includes \$125,000 paid on account of the Chipley Contract for the sale of pine woods.

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a statement of the loan debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1906 :—

							\$
Loan of 1885 (5 per cent. Debentures)	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,875
Loan of 1887 (4½ per cent. Debentures, £9,000 @ \$4.86	...	...	...	...	...	...	43,740
Loan of 1891 (4½ per cent. Debentures, £20,000 @	...	...	...	...	...	...	97,200
4.86).	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	168,815

These debts were all contracted for the improvement of the town of Belize. The local fund contributes one-half of the interest of the loans of 1885 and 1887, and one-half of the sinking fund on the loan of 1887, but nothing in respect of the loan of 1891. The

sinking fund of the loan of 1885 requires no further contributions as the present capital value of the fund is sufficient to produce, at compound interest, the total amount which will be required to liquidate the loan when the payment is due. Ordinance No. 10 of 1902 has legalised the discontinuance of contributions to the fund.

Provision for the repayment of these loans has been made by the investment of the sinking funds as set forth in the next table, which shows the market value of the investments on the 31st December, 1906 :—

			\$
Loan of 1885 (Repayable 1916, \$27,875 = £5,735 12s.	23,313.74		
Loan of 1887 (Repayable 1918, £9,000)	21,815.55		
Loan of 1891 (Repayable 1923, £20,000)	30,174.83		
Total Sinking Funds	75,304.12		

(E.) CURRENCY.

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America, the gold coins of the United States being legally current at their respective values. The British sovereign and half sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43, respectively.

The subsidiary silver currency, coined specially for the Colony, amounts to \$125,000.

There is also a bronze cent piece.

Under Ordinance 32 of 1894, currency notes of the following denominations have been issued :—

- One dollar.
- Two dollars.
- Five dollars.
- Ten dollars.
- Fifty dollars.
- One hundred dollars.

The amount of notes in circulation on the 31st December, 1906, was \$136,642, and against the notes issued the Commissioners of Currency held in the Colony \$109,398.48, \$27,243.52 having been remitted for investment in England, in accordance with the provisions of the law.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following tables give the value of the imports and exports of the Colony for the years 1902 to 1906 :—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Imports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1902 ...	337,300	920	662,624	226,959	1,227,803
1903 ...	463,915	2,592	938,414	368,055	1,772,976
1904 ...	467,449	6,621	991,613	291,636	1,757,319
1905 ...	495,873	9,742	957,481	413,014	1,876,560
1906 ...	587,456	8,309	1,123,681	481,095	2,200,541

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Exports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1902 ...	417,262	—	723,059	221,889	1,362,210
1903 ...	339,293	—	1,116,597	397,291	1,853,181
1904 ...	418,459	7,735	981,343	456,334	1,863,871
1905 ...	470,750	17,400	955,595	391,505	1,835,250
1906 ...	576,241	29,800	941,373	471,592	2,019,006

The imports amounted in value to \$2,200,541, an increase, as compared with the previous year, of \$323,981, and as compared with the average of the preceding 10 years of \$777,966.

Of the total imports the United Kingdom and British Colonies supplied \$595,765 or 26·9 per cent., as against \$1,123,681 or 51·1 per cent. by the United States, and \$481,095 or 22· per cent. by other countries.

As compared with the previous year the value of imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies increased in the sum of \$90,150, as against an increase from the United States of \$166,200, and \$67,631 from other countries.

The following statement of the percentage of the imports supplied by the United Kingdom, British Colonies, United States and other countries during the year as compared with 1897, shows a decrease of 7·8 per cent. from the United Kingdom

and British Colonies, of 2·5 per cent. from the United States' and an increase of 10·3 per cent. from other countries :—

	1897.		1906.	
	\$	per cent.	\$	per cent.
United Kingdom...	486,463	or 34·1 ...	587,465	or 26·7
British Colonies ...	8,127	or ·6 ...	8,309	or ·2
United States ...	761,768	or 53·6 ...	1,123,681	or 51·1
Other Countries ...	165,739	or 11·7 ...	481,095	or 22·0

The increase in imports from other countries is due to the development of that part of Yucatan to the north of the Colony, the produce of which, consisting of mahogany, logwood, chiclé and rubber, is imported into and shipped from the port of Belize.

The imports grouped in classes as required by the Board of Trade, show the following increases and decreases as compared with 1905 :—

Class I. Live Animals, Food, Drink, &c.

	\$		\$
1905 ...	781,104		
1906 ...	808,522	Increase ...	27,418

Class II. Raw Material (other)

	\$		\$
1905 ...	232,779		
1906 ...	361,624	Increase ...	128,845

Class III. Manufactured Articles. (Textile)

	\$		\$
1905 ...	331,431		
1906 ...	374,749	Increase ...	43,318

(Metal)

	\$		\$
1905 ...	133,860		
1906 ...	128,893	Decrease ...	4,967

(Other)

	\$		\$
1905 ...	293,286		
1906 ...	416,059	Increase ...	122,773

Class IV. Coin, Bullion, and Specie.

	\$		\$
1905 ...	104,100		
1906 ...	110,694	Increase ..	6,594

The principal imports from the United Kingdom and the United States, and their value, are given below :—

	United Kingdom.	United States.
	\$	\$
Aerated waters ...	5,417	2,985
Bacon and Hams ...	—	28,001
Beef and Pork ...	—	79,827
Beer, Cider, Porter, &c.	9,485	10,778
Blinds, Doors, Sashes, &c.	—	4,651
Books and Stationery ...	3,196	3,337
Boots and Shoes ...	3,322	83,924
Bread, Navy and Pilot	—	2,324
Butter ...	5,558	22,837
Candles ...	912	3,746
Cheese ...	4,021	11,714
Clothing ...	18,807	11,934
Confectionery ...	8,543	1,842
Cotton goods ...	144,385	166,922
Drugs and Chemicals ...	4,455	26,583
Earthenware and Glass-ware.	6,569	3,560
Fish, salted ...	—	4,993
Flour ...	—	88,812
Furniture ...	808	7,185
Hats ...	10,982	5,389
Hardware and Cutlery...	27,028	43,601
Hay and Oats ...	777	12,830
Indian corn ...	—	5,900
Iron roofing ...	10,987	—
Jewellery and Plate ...	1,740	5,613
Lamp and Lampware ...	782	4,578
Lard ...	—	16,807
Lumber ...	—	41,370
Machinery ...	5,752	43,543
Matches...	418	4,370

Principal Imports from United Kingdom and United States—cont.

	United Kingdom.	United States
	\$	\$
Oils, mineral	—	15,527
Paints	11,304	3,459
Perfumery	4,112	5,859
Provisions, tinned ...	92,818	125,515
Rice	39,346	1,303
Rope and Twine ...	5,612	9,876
Saddlery and Harness ...	2,165	2,482
Silks	6,481	—
Soap	31,176	4,788
Spirits	12,186	2,935
Sugar	1,505	9,945
Tea	8,624	—
Tobacco	465	13,212
Wines	13,581	1,113
Woollen goods	9,425	—

As shown above the United States supplied the greater portion of the food-stuffs imported, as well as a large portion of other articles which in former years were obtained mainly from the United Kingdom, such as clothing, cotton goods, drugs, and chemicals, &c.

The imports from other countries consisted chiefly of mahogany, cedar, logwood, chicle, rubber, live stock, cigars, cigarettes, and coffee from Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala, and cotton goods, earthenware, glassware, cutlery, spirits, and wines from Germany and France.

Attention is drawn to the large sums spent annually in the importation of certain articles which might be produced in the Colony. The value of these articles imported during the year was as under:—

	\$
Corn	6,300
Coffee	11,231
Live stock	40,494
Rice	40,673
Tobacco (raw)	12,756

The Customs duty collected during the year amounted to \$180,706.95, an increase of \$28,498.84 as compared with 1905 and

\$33,407.71 as compared with the average of the preceding 10 years.

The total value of the exports was 2,019,006, an increase, as compared with the previous year, of 183,756, and as compared with the average of the preceding 10 years of \$524,319.

Of the total exports the United Kingdom and British Colonies took \$606,041 or 30 per cent., the United States \$941,373 or 46.62 per cent. and other countries \$471,992 or 22.38 per cent.

The following statement shows the change which has occurred in the export trade during the 10 years 1897-1906 :—

		\$	\$
United States (Increase)	...	703,186	
Mexico	„	187,181	
Honduras	„	207,619	
Guatemala	„	8,847	
British Colonies	„	29,744	
Total increase	...	1,136,677	
United Kingdom (Decrease)	...	193,626	
France	„	254,842	
Germany	„	15,483	
Holland	„	37,283	
Russia	„	19,713	
Other Countries	„	1,011	
Total decrease	...	521,958	
Net increase	...	614,619	

The increase shown in the value of the exports to the United States is mainly due to the large quantity of mahogany and cedar taken by that country during the last few years and to an increased output of chicle, cocoanuts, and fruit. The wood shipped to this market during the year under review amounted to 4,716,211 feet of mahogany valued at \$220,047, and 359,427 feet of cedar valued at \$18,042 as against 2,575 feet of mahogany valued at \$130, and 4,185 feet of cedar valued at \$125 shipped in 1897.

The increase shown in the exports to Mexico, Honduras, and Guatemala is due to the rapidly growing transit trade with those

countries. This trade has increased from \$60,450 in 1897 to \$482,620 in 1906, and, with the development of Yucatan and improved communication with the province of Peten, promises to become a valuable item of the trade of the Colony.

The decrease in the exports to the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Holland, and Russia is attributable to the falling off in the output of logwood. The wood shipped in 1906 amounted to 9,335 tons valued at \$174,466 as against 29,682 tons valued at \$671,492 exported in 1897.

The exports grouped in the classes as required by the Board of Trade show an increase in the produce of the Colony as compared with 1905 of \$43,116 under Class I, and \$152,914 under Class II. The former is due to the increased production in bananas and cocoanuts, and the latter to the larger output of mahogany, cedar, and chicle.

The exports of British and Foreign produce and manufactures increased \$48,613 under Classes I, II, and III, and decreased \$60,887 under Class IV. "Bullion and Coin."

Of Colonial produce the exports for the year amounted to \$1,167,349, or \$196,030 in excess of the previous year, and \$171,899 in excess of the average exports of the preceding 10 years.

The exports of bananas and cocoanuts have shown a steady increase from year to year; the exports for the year under review being the largest on record. This increase would appear to indicate that the inhabitants of the Colony, although hitherto debarred from making use of the best agricultural lands, owing to want of transport, are gradually turning their attention to agriculture, and that the opening up of the Stann Creek Valley by railway will be taken full advantage of.

The exports of other products compared favourably with those of other years, in most cases showing excesses.

The value of the produce and manufactures of other countries exported, exclusive of bullion and coin, amounted to \$786,830, an increase of \$48,613 as compared with 1905. As shown by the return, this trade has increased rapidly during the last four years, being valued in 1902 at \$159,870 as against \$706,830 for the year under review.

The following return shows the total quantity and value of produce shipped from the Colony during the five years 1902-1906.

Quantity and value of the principal items of produce exported.

—	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.	
	Ft.	\$	Ft.	\$	Ft.	\$	Ft.	\$	Ft.	\$
Mahogany	6,043,821	326,658	9,358,776	492,554	9,811,680	574,548	9,957,826	549,099	11,037,480	584,598
Cedar	486,356	24,660	706,533	35,505	758,651	36,279	415,738	21,239	697,055	35,659
	Tons.		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.		Tons.	
Logwood	15,200	302,366	14,205	274,303	11,381	205,515	9,572	184,229	9,335	174,466
	Bchs.		Bchs.		Bchs.		Bchs.		Bchs.	
Bananas	438,200	107,805	524,811	158,913	508,200	127,450	554,700	142,925	725,000	181,250
	Nos.		Nos.		Nos.		Nos.		Nos.	
Plantains	1,624,310	13,168	2,243,350	17,885	2,033,500	15,291	1,665,000	11,806	1,817,175	12,731
Cocoanuts	3,767,175	36,865	3,738,264	47,822	3,391,250	48,074	4,929,700	74,804	5,527,985	83,077
	Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.		Lbs.	
Rubber	30,338	14,163	22,176	13,002	28,042	18,262	22,926	15,921	22,108	18,362
Chicle	252,933	38,185	409,508	74,951	773,323	171,806	1,523,663	299,009	1,517,898	329,975
Sarsaparilla	2,797	688	3,597	766	3,784	941	3,173	592	3,066	328
Tortoise shell	3,297	14,335	2,737	14,507	2,272	12,272	2,778	14,115	3,783	26,008

The exports as shown above were taken by the following countries :—

United Kingdom.

		\$
Mahogany (6,321,269 feet) valued at	...	364,551
Cedar (337,628 feet)	...	17,617
Logwood (8,437 tons)	...	156,506
Tortoise Shell (3,783 lbs.)	...	26,008
Chicle (2,607 lbs.)	...	365
Sarsaparilla (3,066 lbs.)	...	328
Total		\$565,375

United States.

		\$
Mahogany (4,716,211 feet) valued at	...	220,047
Cedar (359,427 feet)	...	18,042
Logwood (352 tons)	...	7,040
Bananas (725,000 bunches)	...	181,250
Plantains (1,817,175 Nos.)	...	12,731
Cocoanuts (5,514,985 Nos.)	...	81,347
Rubber (22,108 lbs.)	...	18,362
Chicle (1,515,291 lbs.)	...	329,610
Total		\$868,429

France.

Logwood (546 tons) valued at	...	10,920
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Honduras.

Cocoanuts (95,000) valued at	...	\$1,550
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British Colonies.

Cocoanuts (18,000) valued at	...	\$160
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The export duty of 75 cents per 1,000 feet on mahogany and 25 cents per ton on logwood amounted to \$10,613, as against \$9,867 in 1905.

The total trade of the Colony amounted to \$4,219,547, or \$507,737 in excess of 1905, and was the largest on record. This was not only due to the greater output of mahogany, cedar, and chicle, but to the expansion in the transit trade and the still more satisfactory increase in the production of cocoanuts and bananas, which was also the largest on record.

The rum returned by the distillers as manufactured during the year amounted to 43,975 proof gallons net from 10 stills, as against 40,168 proof gallons from 11 stills in 1905, 42,491 proof gallons from 13 stills in 1904, 39,176 proof gallons from 15 stills in 1903, and 41,006 proof gallons from 15 stills in 1902.

The excise duty collected during the year amounted to \$48,196, as against \$43,394 in 1905, \$45,018 in 1904, \$44,525 in 1903. The amount collected in 1902 amounted to \$39,650.

(B.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

If 1905 was a record year for fruit it was surpassed by 1906, as is shown in the following comparative return:—

	1905.	1906.
Bananas (bunches) exported	554,700	725,000
Plantains, exported ...	1,665,000	1,817,175
Cocoanuts „ ...	4,929,700	5,527,985

The cultivation of these products will continue to increase, especially when the Stann Creek Valley is opened up by a railway.

The planting of rubber has been extended.

Little has been done in the way of cacao cultivation, but that little has increased. The following comparative table shows a satisfactory progress:—

Year.	Produce.
1899	Nil.
1900	892 lbs.
1901	665 „
1902	1,078 „
1903	8,934 „
1904	14,742 „
1905	18,988 „
1906	42,800 „

The following plants were distributed during the year from the Botanic stations:—

Cacao...	700
Logwood	7,500
Rubber	200
Nutmeg	75
Mahogany	100
Various ornamental plants	827
Various fruit plants, &c.	101
Supplied to the Public Hospital and Cemeteries	152

Total distributed ... 9,655

Liberian coffee seed sent to District Commissioner, Cayo, for distribution	10 qts.
Liberian coffee seed sent to the District Commissioner, Toledo, for distribution	10 qts.

Total 20 qts.

The returns show 49 sugar mills in operation, seven being worked by steam. There were also 10 stills for the manufacture of rum. The output of sugar is put at about 500 tons, nearly all consumed locally, a high price being maintained by means of a protective duty on foreign sugar of 2 cents a pound. About 37 tons were exported to Mexico and $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons to Honduras.

The sponge fishery yielded 6,307 lbs.; while the exports of tortoise shell amounted to 3,128 lbs.

(C.) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

Twelve grants of rural land were made with an acreage of 716 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, the price for agricultural land being \$1 per acre.

The area of rural land under lease was 21,387 acres in 562 holdings, producing a rental of \$3,367.37.

The revenue from licences to cut timber amounted to \$7,469.56, as against \$3,411.74 in 1905, and \$7,046.80 in 1906.

(D.) SHIPPING.

The following tables give the number of sailing ships and steamers entered and cleared during the past five years, and the number and tonnage of British, American, and Norwegian vessels entered and cleared, respectively:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902 	523	18,472	263	189,643
1903 	591	15,292	317	236,767
1904 	487	13,782	289	239,117
1905 	464	11,728	270	234,163
1906 	712	12,410	276	218,837

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902 	508	19,662	265	188,643
1903 	572	19,485	307	234,203
1904 	501	14,406	268	236,252
1905 	520	11,621	283	238,953
1906 	705	13,191	281	211,487

Sailing Vessels—Entered.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902	322	7,051	52	774	18	7,211
1903	398	7,974	36	968	10	3,722
1904	321	8,414	8	702	2	801
1905	263	6,629	61	1,826	1	450
1906	359	7,649	35	1,629	—	—

Sailing Vessels—Cleared.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902	330	6,678	30	603	21	8,560
1903	379	8,391	22	822	12	4,512
1904	320	8,640	10	719	2	865
1905	284	7,276	50	1,689	—	—
1906	354	7,951	35	1,677	1	450

Steamers—Entered.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902	66	92,876	102	55,259	95	41,508
1903	106	117,358	80	43,199	125	75,855
1904	134	160,751	35	4,467	116	70,427
1905	125	162,016	41	4,330	98	59,641
1906	124	158,146	62	1,669	76	49,936

Steamers—Cleared.

Year.	British.		American.		Norwegian.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1902	69	94,124	100	52,689	95	41,825
1903	104	115,991	76	40,948	124	76,940
1904	130	161,465	21	3,521	107	65,088
1905	124	166,155	45	1,615	105	64,047
1906	119	150,388	73	2,057	76	50,106

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fourteen Ordinances were enacted during 1906. Of these the most important was Ordinance No. 1, "The Mosquito Destruction Ordinance."

Ordinance No. 2 provides for the regulation of Newtown Barracks and the adjacent parade ground now generally used for the purposes of public recreation.

Ordinance No. 13 somewhat alters the incidence of fees for Trade Licences in Belize, and provides for the settlement of rental values of business premises by the District Commissioner.

The other Ordinances were the usual appropriation Ordinances and Ordinances amending the Consolidated Laws and existing Ordinances.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The system of primary education in force in the Colony has been established under the provisions of the "Education Ordinance, 1892." Under that Ordinance, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1894, a Central Board of Education was created, consisting of the Governor, as president, the members of the Executive Council, and five other members appointed by the governor. The various religious denominations are represented on the Board. Most of the schools received aid from the Government in the forms (1) of a capitation grant on the average monthly attendance; (2) of grants on account of pupil teachers employed in accordance with the Education Rules; (3) of needlework grants to schools in the outdistricts; and (4) of bonuses on examination results. The expenditure of the funds voted by the Legislature in respect of education is controlled by the Central Board.

The amount expended on the primary schools during the calendar year 1906 was \$15,694.31, which comprised the following items:—

	\$
Grants to schools on their average daily attendances	13,302.33
Grants on account of pupil teachers	1,360.23
Needlework grants	167.25
Bonuses on examination results for the year 1905	646.25
Grants for buildings, furniture, and apparatus	218.25
	15,694.31

The total cost of primary education in the aided schools of the Colony for the year was \$28,804.56. Of this sum the Government contributed \$17,675.81, detailed as follows :—

				\$
Grants in aid of schools	...	...	...	15,694.31
Expenses of administration...	...	...	...	1,981.50

The cost per head on the total average attendance (2,876) was \$10.01. The following statement shows the cost, as compared with the three preceding years :—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Paid by Government ...	5.65	5.84	5.95	6.14
School Fees ...	1.01	.99	.89	.85
Voluntary Contributions ...	3.28	3.35	3.09	3.02
Totals... ..	9.94	10.18	9.93	10.01

The average attendances during 1904, 1905, and 1906 were 2,580, 2,742 and 2,876 respectively.

The total number of schools in operation during the whole or part of the year was 39. There were 41 in 1905, and 39 in 1904.

The total number of pupils on the roll was 3,945, as compared with 3,823 in 1905 and 3,576 in 1904.

The average receipt of school fees per head, on the average attendance for the year, is less than that of 1903—when it reached the highest figures shown for several previous years—and for each of the two preceding years, 1904 and 1905.

The average yearly receipts of fees in the schools of the several denominations during the last three years per unit of average attendance are shown in the following table :—

Sources of Education Revenue.

Schools.	Average Attendance.			Total School Fees.			Voluntary Contributions.			Receipts of School Fees per Unit of Average Attendance.		
	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Church of England ...	427	432	506	\$ 639.10	\$ 577.87	\$ 613.71	\$ 3,228.28	\$ 2,733.55	\$ 3,200.85	\$ 1.49	\$ 1.34	\$ 1.20
Roman Catholic ...	1,140	1,240	1,329	895.33	822.51	808.33	2,621.25	2,558.15	2,702.81	.78	.66	.61
Wesleyan... ..	729	718	691	740.09	650.95	707.45	1,958.52	2,714.18	2,322.05	1.01	.90	1.02
Baptist	161	185	184	150.26	171.60	140.40	688.99	612.00	612.00	.93	.93	.76
Non-denominational ...	123	167	166	135.60	213.00	184.40	60.00	60.00	60.00	1.10	1.27	1.11
Totals	2,580	2,742	2,867	2,560.38	2,435.93	2,454.29	8,524.04	8,677.88	8,897.71	.99	.89	.85

The smallest proportion of fees is received in the Roman Catholic Schools. One reason for this is that they are attended by the greater portion of the Carib children and all the Indian children who go to school, the majority of whose parents are in poor circumstances and unable to pay school fees regularly.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS, ASYLUM, AND POOR-HOUSE.

The following table shows the number of patients under treatment and care in the various institutions during 1906.

Institutions.	Remaining at beginning of 1906.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained at end of 1906.	Daily Average.
Belize Hospital ...	28	513	421	79	51	39.43
Corosal Hospital ...	7	135	115	17	10	8.11
Orange Walk Hospital	7	91	76	10	12	6
Belize :—						
Lunatic Asylum ...	40	9	2	2	45	42.50
Poor-house ...	24	20	1	10	33	25.58

SAVINGS BANKS.

There are six Savings Banks conducted by the Government, one in the chief town of each district. The total number of depositors was 542. Deposits amounted to \$23,223.47, and withdrawals to \$15,347.66. The total amount to the credit of depositors at the end of 1906 was \$67,952.52.

The rate of interest allowed is 3 per cent. per annum.

The amount of invested funds is \$60,373.05.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

There are seven Friendly Societies in Belize, four of which have not furnished returns for the Blue Book. The remaining three had a total of 237 members, with invested funds to the amount of \$2,894.19.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) POLICE.

The authorised strength is one superintendent, one assistant, and 98 non-commissioned officers and men. Special constables are engaged at Christmas time and also when required for quarantine.

(B.) PRISONS.

The following table gives the total number of prisoners committed to all the prisons in the Colony for penal imprisonment, and the daily average number of prisoners in the Belize Prison from 1902 to 1906 :—

Year.			Prisoners committed for Penal Imprisonment.	Daily average in Belize Prison.
1902	...	...	322	43·48
1903	...	...	367	49·31
1904	...	...	250	58·41
1905	...	...	299	54·32
1906	...	...	420	54·24

Convicted prisoners are employed out of doors on various public works. Within the prison they are employed in tailoring, printing, book-binding, carpentry, tin-smithing, and the manufacture of brooms, fibre mats, mattresses, ship fenders, &c. Discipline was good, and there were only 51 punishments. No corporal punishment has been inflicted on a prisoner since the year 1900. The health of the prisoners and warders was good, and there were no deaths.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year 1906 was 1,301, or 57 more than in 1905. The number of persons summarily convicted was 918, or 76 more than in 1905.

Informations were filed against 46 persons in the Supreme Court. Judgment was given for the Crown in 37 cases, and for the prisoner in two. A *nolle prosequi* was entered by the Attorney-General in two cases. One prisoner was insane and unable to plead.

There was one conviction for manslaughter and one for rape. Nineteen convictions were obtained for other offences against the person, and 12 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The estimated mean population for the year was 41,007, consisting of 20,942 males and 20,065 females.

The birth-rate was 32·9, and the mortality 29·9 per 1,000.

The number of illegitimate births was 630, out of a total of 1,403. The following table shows the rate per cent. of illegitimate births during the past nine years :—

						Per cent.
1898	...	...	...	...	...	37·5
1899	...	...	...	...	...	39·8
1900	...	...	...	...	...	42·0
1901	...	...	..	...	...	43·1
1902	...	...	...	...	...	44·9
1903	...	...	...	...	...	46·7
1904	...	...	...	...	...	44·5
1905	...	...	...	...	...	44·9
1906	...	...	...	...	...	39·2

385 marriages took place during the year, being at the rate of 9·39 per 1,000 of the mean population.

The following table gives the number of births, marriages, and deaths, and the rate per 1,000 of births and deaths for the last ten years :—

Year.	Births.	Birth rate per 1,000.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000.
1897 ...	1,410	40·5	309	1,013	29·5
1898 ...	1,469	42·2	281	1,146	32·9
1899 ...	1,526	43·3	273	1,191	33·8
1900 ...	1,478	39·9	339	890	24·0
1901 ...	1,489	39·5	312	1,069	28·3
1902 ...	1,467	38·2	339	1,058	27·6
1903 ...	1,513	38·8	351	1,043	26·7
1904 ...	1,500	37·8	386	989	24·9
1905 ...	1,403	34·7	423	1,331	32·9
1906 ...	1,349	32·9	385	1,228	29·9

During 1906 the excess of male over female births was 27 and of male over female deaths, 106.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following table, prepared by the Registrar-General, furnishes comparative statistics for the past ten years of the causes of death in the Colony :—

*Mortality from some of the Principal Diseases in the Colony,
1897-1906.*

Years.	Diseases.									
	Malarial Fevers.	Dysentery.	Small-pox.	Yellow Fever.	Measles.	Phthisis, Pulmonary.	Nervous Diseases.	Circulatory Diseases.	Respiratory Diseases.	Intestinal Diseases.
1897 ...	9.9	1.9	—	—	—	1.1	3.6	.9	1.2	1.4
1898 ...	10.8	1.5	—	—	—	1.5	3.5	.5	2.6	1.3
1899 ...	9.2	1.9	—	—	—	1.5	3.6	.4	4.7	2.5
1900 ...	8.6	1.1	—	—	—	1.0	3.3	.7	1.7	1.6
1901 ...	9.4	1.5	—	—	—	0.9	2.8	.9	1.7	1.9
1902 ...	8.8	1.3	—	—	—	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.9	2.1
1903 ...	8.6	1.0	—	—	—	1.3	2.7	.4	1.6	1.7
1904 ...	8.1	0.9	—	—	—	1.2	2.1	.5	1.4	2.1
1905 ...	9.3	1.3	—	0.173	—	1.3	1.9	.6	2.0	2.8
1906 ...	9.6	0.9	—	—	—	1.6	1.9	.4	4.7	2.0

The following table shows the number of deaths for every 100 births registered during the years 1902-06, inclusive, according to their race classification :—

Race.				Deaths for every 100 births, 1902-1906.
Indian	...	...	...	114.23
Carib...	...	...	...	48.24
Negro	...	...	...	58.74
Other Races...	...	...	...	79.62

(C.) CLIMATE. .

*Summary of Meteorological Observations taken at Belize
for the year 1905.*

Months.	Barometer.		Thermometer.		Relative Humidity.		Number of days it rained.	Amount of rain.
January ...	30.160	29.070	85	60	98	80	16	6.85
February ...	30.155	29.960	89	63	99	85	9	8.55
March ...	30.175	29.955	87.5	68	97	81	5	2.00
April ...	30.175	29.960	88.5	68.5	97	82	1	0.80
May ...	30.293	29.946	90	70	97	85	6	6.42½
June ...	30.247	29.831	93	70	97	80	14	15.67
July ...	30.401	29.894	89	69	97	77	12	13.90
August ...	30.306	29.880	91	70	97	77	6	7.22½
September ...	30.263	29.848	92	70	97	82	7	5.00
October ...	30.197	29.207	92	71	97	83	9	9.00
November ...	30.162	29.814	93	65	97	83	12	14.80
December ...	30.214	29.857	86	67.6	97	85	5	14.10
Total ...	30.228	29.768	89.6	67.6	97.2	81.6	102	99.32

The average rainfall for the 10 years 1897–1906 in Belize was 89·74 inches ; the maximum—114·21 inches—being in 1900, and the minimum—65·89 inches—in 1902.

Comparative Return.

	Year.	Rainfall, in Inches.	No. of Days on which rain fell.
	1897 ...	87·72	105
	1898 ...	102·04	155
	1899 ...	80·47	152
	1900 ...	114·12	160
	1901 ...	83·6	116
	1902 ...	65·89	107
	1903 ...	70·90	118
	1904 ...	87	119
	1905 ...	106·42	109
	1906 ...	99·32	102

VIII.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The total revenue of the Post Office for the calendar year was 13,044.25, as compared with \$11,351.94 in 1904.

The total expenditure for salaries and wages and all expenses of postal service (including money and postal order business) within the Colony was \$14,583.89 ; and for conveyance of mails beyond the Colony \$12,000, making a total expenditure of 26,583.79.

The number of letters and other articles sent and received from abroad from 1902 to 1906 was as follows :—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Ordinary letters ...	137,185	142,020	152,960	157,265	157,790
Registered letters ...	7,546	8,104	7,951	8,015	8,996
Post-cards ...	4,168	7,775	12,053	18,585	17,763
Newspapers, books, &c.	88,655	94,777	100,347	103,160	103,679
Postal parcels...	2,516	2,862	3,484	4,204	4,978

The amount of inland correspondence for the same period is given in the following table :—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Letters ...	62,965	66,749	68,886	67,365	68,564
Post-cards ...	1,100	2,444	1,375	1,547	1,398
Newspapers, books, and parcels.	8,655	11,803	9,994	9,789	13,189

The transactions in connection with the money order system from 1902 to 1906 were as follows :—

Money Orders issued on the United Kingdom and British Colonies.

					£	s.	a.
1902	...	...	...	...	1,494	13	0
1903	...	...	...	...	1,095	13	0
1904	...	...	...	...	1,441	6	7
1905	...	...	...	...	1,476	12	2
1906	...	...	...	...	1,375	0	1

Money Orders issued on the United States of America.

					\$
1902	...	...	...	...	3,730.75
1903	...	...	...	...	3,846.63
1904	...	...	...	...	4,415.44
1905	...	...	...	...	6,470.04
1906	...	...	...	...	8,887.10

Money Orders drawn on the Colony by the United Kingdom and British Colonies.

					£	s.	d.
1902	...	...	...	...	405	7	4
1903	...	...	...	...	247	18	2
1904	...	...	...	...	229	5	2
1905	...	...	...	...	232	15	1
1906	...	...	...	...	295	8	4

Money Orders drawn on the Colony by the U.S.A.

					\$
1902	...	...	...	...	1,670.80
1903	...	...	...	...	333.55
1904	...	...	...	...	404.61
1905	...	...	...	...	809.65
1906	...	...	...	...	2,724.03

The following is a comparative table of the telegraph and telephone transactions for the years 1904, 1905 and 1906 :—

				Telephone Calls.	Telegrams.	Total.
1904	...	...	...	6,926	2,422	9,348
1905	...	...	...	15,305	7,992	23,297
1906	...	...	...	14,887	10,195	25,082

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The volunteer year commences on the 1st April and terminates on the 31st March. Captain Gutteron resigned the command early in the year and was succeeded by Major Maxwell. The thanks of the Colony are due to Captain Gutteron for his long and zealous services to the force.

The strength of the force has been somewhat increased, amounting on the 31st March, 1907, to 208 Light Infantry and 53 Mounted Infantry. Probably at no time since the force was instituted has its efficiency been greater. The rifle range having been improved more attention was given to shooting than during the previous year.

The annual camp in March, 1907, was attended by 150 men, of whom 29 belonged to the Mounted Infantry. As usual, the principal firms in Belize provided free transport, and the cost of the camp to the Government amounted to only \$439.84. The total cost of the force during the year was \$4,645.89.

The Commandant, Major Maxwell, was during the year appointed Chief Justice of the Colony, but consented to continue in command.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

During the year 1906 the Colony was free from yellow fever. In the previous history of the Colony an outbreak of yellow fever, such as occurred in 1905, was always followed by a less severe outbreak in the following year. The Colony has been more fortunate in this respect than its neighbours, for in all the neighbouring Republics cases of yellow fever presented themselves. The immunity of the Colony is probably due to the practice of fumigating all the small vessels coming from infected places and so destroying infected mosquitoes.

An Ordinance to enforce the screening of vats and the taking of other measures for preventing the breeding of the *stegomyia asiata* came into force in January in Belize, and later on in other towns of the Colony. The work was slow as nearly all the vats had to be covered and prepared to take the wire gauze. The fitting of the gauze is an easy matter if the vat is properly constructed and covered. It was noticed that when the vats in any block were screened neighbouring houses were visited with flights of *stegomyia*, evidently looking for new breeding grounds. These migrations continued till the screening was completed. Some very bad low-lying lots in Belize have been filled in and breeding grounds of anopheles to some extent diminished.

The improvement in the navigation of the Belize river progressed far enough to enable power launches to proceed as far as the Cayo. A journey that used to take 10 to 30 days has been performed in 27 hours. The river is navigable to the Cayo for

about eight months in every year, and some six or seven launches now run regularly during the season. Trade in the river has consequently increased very considerably. A system of allowing goods to pass through to Peten in bond will shortly be inaugurated.

A commencement was made in establishing a new experimental Botanical Station at Bolton's Bank, on the Belize River, about seven miles from the town. This new station is more suitable than the one in Belize, and with the improved navigation of the river is easily accessible.

Colonel E. J. E. Swayne arrived in the Colony on the 12th August and assumed the administration of the Government on the 13th.

The contract for a weekly mail service to New Orleans was renewed for a period of five years. There is an unsubsidized fortnightly service to Mobile. The Harrison Line steamers come from Liverpool every four or five weeks. Seven steamers of the Scrutton Line arrived from the West Indies and loaded for London.

A 20 mile line of railway has been sanctioned for the Stann Creek valley. The line will be carried to a pier, and trucks will be loaded and unloaded direct from and into ocean going steamers.

WILFRED COLLET,
Colonial Secretary.

1st November, 1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No	Colony, &c.	Year.
519	East Africa Protectorate	1905-1906
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Weihaiwei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 572.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 552.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
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1908.

[Cd. 3729-36.] *Price 2d.*

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No. 572.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 552.)

THE ACTING-GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Belize,

9th July, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the **Annual**
Report for the year 1907.

I have, &c.,

WILFRED COLLET,

Administering the Government.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF BRITISH HONDURAS FOR THE YEAR 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The financial returns in this report, except where otherwise stated, are for the year ended 31st March, 1907. The other returns are for the calendar year 1907.

On 1st April, 1906, the surplus on the general revenue account of the Colony was \$178,671.63.

(A.) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following statements show the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the financial years 1905-6 and 1906-7, under each head of revenue and service, respectively:—

General Revenue.

Head of Revenue.	Amount collected in the year 1905-06.	Amount collected in the year 1906-07.
	\$	\$
1. Customs	161,789.12	191,092.16
2. Light Dues	8,464.62	9,527.28
3. Internal Taxation	58,311.01	62,776.28
4. Revenue of Government Property ...	10,058.13	13,546.94
4A. Revenue of Government Property (special).	50,000.00	50,000.00
5. Fees of Court or Office, &c.	21,768.92	22,811.28
6. Post Office and Telegraphs	13,355.42	14,762.99
7. Interest	6,385.38	8,298.59
8. Reimbursements on account of Belize Town and Harbour Improvements.	143.54	125.54
9. Miscellaneous Receipts	1,013.15	1,704.61
Total Ordinary Revenue ...	331,289.29	374,645.67
10. Sale of Crown Lands	626.39	1,592.12
11. Casual Revenue	194.27	122.93
12. Supply of Coin	—	15,500.00
Total Revenue	332,109.95	391,860.72
Local Revenue:—		
Belize District	25,133.29	28,839.11
Corosal District	3,105.10	3,277.88
Orange Walk District	1,191.20	2,046.29
Stann Creek District	2,343.20	2,957.95
Toledo District	1,923.65	2,022.45
Cayo District	767.76	722.64
Total Local Revenue ...	34,464.20	39,866.32
Grand Total	366,574.15	431,726.04

Expenditure.

Head of Expenditure.	Expenditure, 1905-1906.	Expenditure, 1906-1907.
	\$	\$
1. Charges on Account of Public Debt ...	10,533.19	10,526.95
2. Pensions	11,395.09	12,305.34
3. Governor	13,684.51	11,512.94
4. Colonial Secretary's Department ...	9,647.60	8,086.84
5. Treasury and Custom House	17,238.80	19,043.20
5A. Treasury and Custom House (Special expenditure).	3,597.30	950.00
6. Audit Department	2,328.83	2,309.57
7. Post Office and Telegraphs	28,463.02	29,502.89
8. Judicial	13,861.84	12,700.03
9. District Commissioners	15,059.65	14,711.94
10. Police	37,675.54	36,552.24
11. Volunteer Force	4,769.56	4,645.89
12. Prisons	11,490.63	11,595.38
13. Medical Department	25,416.87	26,950.22
14. Central Board of Health and Quarantine.	9,527.84	3,346.78
15. Education	16,567.91	17,423.80
16. Surveyor-General's Department ...	9,547.71	17,046.49
17. Botanic Station	2,396.58	2,650.57
18. Miscellaneous	5,434.30	7,952.36
19. Lighthouses	4,335.85	5,004.56
20. Colonial Engineer's Department ...	4,361.40	3,293.12
21. Public Works Recurrent	19,013.50	21,291.76
Total Ordinary Expenditure ...	276,397.52	279,402.87
22. Public Works Extraordinary	23,953.37	28,208.45
23. Loan Expenditure Stann Creek Railway.	—	5,554.55
24. Supply of Coin	—	8,272.79
Total Expenditure ...	300,350.89	321,438.66
Local Expenditure :—		
Belize District	29,491.28	29,076.49
Corosal District	3,160.01	3,030.89
Orange Walk District	1,151.98	1,267.18
Stann Creek District	2,278.01	1,931.60
Toledo District	1,415.24	2,039.47
Cayo District	938.98	1,112.59
Total Local Expenditure ...	38,435.50	38,458.22
Grand Total	338,786.39	359,896.88

(B.) TAXATION.

No alteration was made in taxation, but an Ordinance providing for additional revenue derivable from a small land tax was passed to take effect in 1908.

The following is a statement of the revenue and expenditure for the five years 1902-3 to 1906-7:—

—	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.
Year.	Amount.	Amount.
	\$	\$
1902-3	259,600	252,242
1903-4	301,194	266,039
1904-5	309,790	282,258
1905-6	332,110	300,351
1906-7	391,861	321,439

(C.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The position of the Colony on the 31st March, 1907, in respect of its assets and liabilities, as compared with its position on the 31st March, 1906, is shown in the following table:—

	<i>General Revenue.</i>	
	1905-6.	1906-7.
	\$	\$
Assets	261,477.18	341,319.07
Liabilities	82,805.55	92,225.38
Excess of Assets	178,912.57	249,093.69

At the end of the calendar year 1907, the surplus on general revenue account stood at \$252,209.88, of which \$69,355.04 was invested. This surplus includes \$125,000 paid on account of the Chipley Contract for the sale of pine woods. On the other hand the surplus was \$69,269.92 less than it would otherwise have been, by reason of expenditure on the Stann Creek Railway having been met from general revenue instead of from loan funds.

(D.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The following is a statement of the loan debt of the Colony on the 31st December, 1907:—

	\$
Loan of 1885 (5 per cent. Debentures)	27,875
Loan of 1887 (4½ per cent. Debentures, £9,000 @ \$4.86)	43,740
Loan of 1891 (4½ per cent. Debentures, £20,000 @ 4.86)	97,200
Total	168,815

These debts were all contracted for the improvement of the town of Belize. The local fund contributes one-half of the interest of the loans of 1885 and 1887, and one-half of the sinking fund on the loan of 1887, but nothing in respect of the loan of 1891. The sinking fund of the loan of 1885 requires no further contributions as the present capital value of the fund is sufficient to produce, at compound interest, the total amount which will be required to liquidate the loan when the payment is due. Ordinance No. 10 of 1902 has legalised the discontinuance of contributions to the fund.

Provision for the repayment of these loans has been made by the investment of the sinking funds as set forth in the next table, which shows the market value of the investments on the 31st December, 1907:—

	\$
Loan of 1885 (Repayable 1916, \$27,875 = £5,735 12s)	23,732.98
Loan of 1887 (Repayable 1918, £9,000)	23,127.63
Loan of 1891 (Repayable 1923, £20,000)	32,559.43
Total Sinking Funds	79,420.04

(E.) CURRENCY.

The standard of currency is the gold dollar of the United States of America, the gold coins of the United States being legally current at their respective values. The British sovereign and half-sovereign are legal tender for \$4.86 and \$2.43 respectively. The subsidiary silver currency, coined specially for the Colony, amounts to \$149,500. There is also a bronze cent piece.

Under Ordinance 32 of 1894, currency notes have been issued for sums of \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$50, and \$100.

The amount of notes in circulation on the 31st December, 1907, was \$128,934, and against the notes issued the Commissioners of Currency held in gold in the Colony \$91,970.48, and held investments in England, in accordance with the provisions of the law, amounting to \$36,963.52.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following tables give the value of the imports and exports of the Colony for the years 1903 to 1907:—

Imports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Imports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1903 ...	463,915	2,592	938,414	368,055	1,772,976
1904 ...	467,449	6,621	991,613	291,636	1,757,319
1905 ...	495,873	9,742	957,481	413,014	1,876,560
1906 ...	587,456	8,309	1,123,681	481,095	2,200,541
1907 ...	665,009	5,284	1,360,917	384,513	2,415,723

Exports.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Colonies.	United States.	Other Countries.	Total Exports.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1903 ...	339,293	—	1,116,597	397,291	1,853,181
1904 ...	418,459	7,735	981,343	456,334	1,863,871
1905 ...	470,750	17,400	955,595	391,505	1,835,250
1906 ...	576,241	29,800	941,373	471,592	2,019,006
1907 ...	454,102	27,017	1,146,808	583,109	2,211,036

Exclusive of coin and bullion, of which \$86,149 was imported, the value of the imports amounted to \$2,329,574, an increase of \$239,727, as compared with 1906, and \$946,923, as compared with the average value of the imports for the preceding ten years.

Of the total imports the United Kingdom and the British Colonies supplied \$670,293 or 27·75 per cent., as against \$1,360,917 or 56·34 per cent. by the United States, and \$384,513 or 15·91 per cent. by other countries.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies was \$74,528 more than the previous year, as compared with an increase of \$237,236 from the United States and a decrease of \$96,582 from other countries.

It is satisfactory to note that the import trade of the Colony has steadily increased from year to year and that the imports for the year under review were \$1,166,813 in excess of those of 1898, or almost double those of that year.

A comparison of the value of the imports in 1898 and 1907 and the relative positions of the several countries sending goods to the Colony in those years is shown below:—

	1898.	\$	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	...	420,127	33·64
British Colonies ...	...	2,723	·22
United States ...	...	706,472	56·56
Germany ...	...	18,965	1·52
France ...	...	5,482	·44
Other Countries ...	...	95,141	7·62

1907.				
			\$	Per cent.
United Kingdom ...	...	665,009		27·53
British Colonies ...	...	5,284		·22
United States ...	...	1,360,917		56·34
Germany ...	...	70,535		2·92
France ...	...	38,653		1·60
Other Countries ...	...	275,325		11·39

The falling off in the proportion of trade with the United Kingdom is due to the competition of the United States in such articles as cotton goods, drugs and chemicals, hardware, cutlery, and tinned provisions of all sorts, and also to the competition of Germany in cotton goods, earthen and glassware, hardware, perfumery, and toys.

The increase as shown under "other countries" is mainly due to the opening up of the Mexican territory bordering on the Rio Hondo, the produce of which, consisting of mahogany, logwood, chicle, and rubber, is imported into and shipped from the port of Belize.

The classes under which the increase in the value of the imports has occurred, as compared with 1906, are as follows:—

Class I. Live Animals, Food, Drink, &c.

			\$	\$
1906 ...	808,522			
1907 ...	907,060	Increase ...	98,538	

Class III. Manufactured Articles. (Textile)

			\$	\$
1906 ...	374,749			
1907 ...	529,458	Increase ...	154,709	

(Metal)

			\$	\$
1906 ...	128,893			
1907 ...	205,014	Increase ...	76,121	

(Other)

			\$	\$
1906 ...	416,059			
1907 ...	493,121	Increase ...	77,062	
Total Increase			...	406,430

Less decreases under—

Class II Raw Material.

			\$	\$
1906 ...	361,624			
1907 ...	194,921	Decrease ...	166,703	

Class IV. Coin, Bullion, and Specie.

			\$	\$
1906 ...	110,694			
1907 ...	86,149	Decrease ...	24,545	
Total Decrease			...	191,248

Net Increase ... 215,182

It is noticeable that the main items of imports are food-stuffs, the Colony depending with but few exceptions on the United States for its food supply. In this connection it may be observed that no effort is being made to produce in the Colony such articles as rice, corn, vegetables, and live stock on a sufficiently large scale to supply the local demand. The value of the imports of these articles during the year amounted to \$128,829.

The imports from the United Kingdom, with the exception of cotton goods, show but little increase during the last ten years. A comparison of the value of some of the main articles in 1898 and 1907 shows that while the United States and Germany have increased their trade with the Colony very considerably in these articles, the trade with the United Kingdom has remained about the same:—

	1898.	1907.
	\$	\$
Aerated Waters:		
United Kingdom	1,430	1,907
United States		6,022
Germany		1,179
France		1,694
Boots and Shoes:		
United Kingdom	5,865	5,006
United States	38,843	100,314
Clothing:		
United Kingdom	26,952	29,533
United States	8,467	18,849
Cotton Goods:		
United Kingdom	90,078	175,811
United States	66,613	186,168
Germany	1,799	17,748
France		11,857
Drugs and Chemicals:		
United Kingdom	3,953	3,384
United States	9,727	27,572
Hardware and Cutlery:		
United Kingdom	17,577	30,358
United States	18,061	54,771
Germany	599	3,122
Provisions (tinned):		
United Kingdom	74,557	79,079
United States	62,614	132,269
Rope and Twine:		
United Kingdom	3,117	6,792
United States	4,058	17,882

Omitting the export duty on mahogany and logwood the customs duties collected during the year amounted to \$206,888.92, an increase of \$26,181.97, as compared with 1906, and \$72,295.81, as compared with the average receipts of the preceding ten years.

Exports.

The value of the exports for the year amounted to \$2,211,036, or \$192,030 in excess of the exports for 1906, and \$692,309 in excess of the average of the past 10 years.

The exports were distributed under the following heads:—

			\$
British Honduras produce	...	1,150,215	
Imports re-exported	...	917,477	
Bullion and Coin	...	143,344	
Total	...	\$2,211,036	

Of the total exports the United Kingdom and British Colonies took \$481,119 or 21·76 per cent., the United States \$1,146,808 or 51·87 per cent., Honduras \$334,991 or 15·15 per cent., Mexico \$221,130 or 10 per cent., and other countries \$26,988 or 1·22 per cent.

A falling off in the value of the exports to the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Holland, and Russia is attributable to the decrease in the output of logwood owing to the unremunerative price now obtained for this article; the wood shipped in 1907 amounting to 6,663 tons, valued at \$128,252, as compared with 23,579 tons, valued at \$499,223 exported in 1896.

During the past few years there has been a large increase in the quantity of mahogany and cedar taken by the United States, the exports growing from 48,765 feet, valued at \$2,610 in 1898, to 5,069,956 feet, valued at \$261,329 in 1907. In addition this country takes all of the fruit, cocoanuts, and chicle exported from the Colony.

The exports to Mexico, Honduras, and Guatemala are mainly imports re-exported. The transit trade with these countries is increasing steadily from year to year and should continue to do so with the development of the Mexican territory bordering on the Rio Hondo, and improved communication by the Belize river with the province of Peten. The value of this trade amounted to \$578,693 in 1907, as against \$61,807 in 1898.

The exports grouped in the classes as required by the Board of Trade show a decrease in the produce of the Colony, as compared with 1906, of \$14,348 under Class I, "Live Animals, Food, &c.," and \$3,855 under Class II. "Raw Material," and an increase of \$1,069 under Class III. "Manufactured Material." The decreases were due to a falling off in the output of fruit and mahogany.

— The exports of British and foreign produce and manufactures increased \$88,251, \$82,087, and \$78,517 under Classes I., III., and IV., and decreased \$39,691 under Class II.

The increases and decreases under the several classes are shown as under:—

Class.	Home Produce.	Foreign Produce.	Total.
Class I.—Live animals, food, &c.—			
1906	\$ 281,565	\$ 161,652	\$ 443,217
1907	267,217	249,903	517,120
Decrease	14,348	—	—
Increase	—	88,251	—
Net increase	—	—	73,903
Class II.—Raw material—			
1906	885,784	397,728	1,283,512
1907	881,929	358,037	1,239,966
Decrease... ..	3,855	39,691	43,546
Class III.—Manufactured material—			
1906	—	227,450	227,450
1907	1,069	309,537	310,606
Increase	1,069	82,087	83,156
Class IV.—Bullion and Coin—			
1906	—	64,827	64,827
1907	—	143,344	143,344
Increase	—	78,517	78,517

As compared with 1906 the following increases and decreases appear in the main items of produce exported:—

—	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Ft.	Ft.		Ft.
Mahogany ...	11,037,480	9,569,566	—	1,467,914
Cedar	697,055	406,334	—	290,721
	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.
Logwood	9,335	6,663	—	2,672
	Bchs.	Bchs.		Bchs.
Bananas	725,000	652,930	—	72,070
	Nos.	Nos.		Nos.
Plantains	1,817,175	849,550	—	967,625
Coccanuts... ..	5,527,985	4,550,175	—	977,810
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Rubber	22,108	24,968	2,680	—
Chicle	1,517,898	1,689,118	171,220	—
Sarsaparilla ...	3,066	2,246	—	820
Tortoise-shell ...	3,783	2,987	—	796

The imports for 1907 as shown above were taken by the following countries:—

<i>United Kingdom.</i>			\$
Mahogany (4,634,159 feet) valued at	...	...	282,403
Cedar (271,885 feet)	"	...	15,075
Logwood (6,256 tons)	"	...	119,298
Tortoise-shell (2,987 lbs.)	"	...	20,771
Chicle (9,236 lbs.)	"	...	2,917

Total \$440,464

<i>United States.</i>			\$
Mahogany (4,935,407 feet) valued at	...	...	254,308
Cedar (134,449 feet)	"	...	7,021
Logwood (407 tons)	"	...	8,954
Bananas (652,930 bunches)	"	...	159,549
Plantains (849,550 Nos.)	"	...	6,012
Cocoanuts (4,550,175 Nos.)	"	...	80,171
Rubber (24,968 lbs.)	"	...	18,957
Chicle (1,679,882 lbs.)	"	...	473,712
Sarsaparilla (2,246 lbs.)	"	...	671

Total \$1,009,335

Of the total exports the following table gives those produced in the Colony itself as compared with 1906:—

—	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bananas	Bchs. 725,000	Bchs. 652,930	—	Bchs. 72,070
Cedar	Ft. 448,651	Ft. 331,636	—	Ft. 117,015
Chicle	Lbs. 941,634	Lbs. 1,074,042	132,408	—
Cocoa	Lbs. 42,800	Lbs. 46,435	3,635	—
Cocoanuts	Nos. 5,527,985	Nos. 4,550,175	—	Nos. 977,810
Hides and skins	Lbs. 21,262	Lbs. 12,034	—	Lbs. 9,238
Logwood	Tons 8,773	Tons 6,167	—	Tons 2,606
Mahogany	Ft. 7,788,249	Ft. 6,871,920	—	Ft. 916,329
Plantains	Nos. 1,817,175	Nos. 849,550	—	Nos. 967,625
Rosewood... ..	Tons 9	Tons 306	Tons 297	—
Rubber	Lbs. 20,244	Lbs. 24,112	Lbs. 3,868	—
Rum	Gals. 3,639	Gals. 5,516	Gals. 1,877	—
Sarsaparilla	Lbs. 3,066	Lbs. 886	Lbs. —	Lbs. 2,180
Sugar	—	—	—	—
Tortoise-shell	—	—	—	—

The decrease in the output of mahogany and cedar was due to the prolonged drought experienced during the year, owing to which some of the woodcutters were unable to float their wood down to the ports of shipment. To the drought was also due the shortage in the output of fruit and cocoanuts.

The export duty of 75 cents per 1,000 feet on mahogany and 25 cents per ton on logwood brought in \$8,857, as against \$10,613 in 1906.

The total trade of the Colony amounted in all to \$4,626,759, being the largest on record, and \$407,212 in excess of 1906, an increase of \$215,182 in imports and \$192,030 in exports.

Excise.

During the year 11 stills were licensed, the net output of which, as declared to by the distillers, amounted to 57,826 proof gallons.

A very satisfactory increase of the quantity of rum returned and the duty collected is being shown from year to year, due mainly to the replacement of the old and worn-out stills with new and improved ones, and to better and more constant supervision by the Excise Officers.

The output for the years 1906 and 1907 was as under:—

Year.	No. of Stills.	Rum returned.	Duty collected.
		Gallons.	
1906	10	43,975	48,196
1907	11	57,826	51,707

(B.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES.

There was a falling off in the export of bananas, plantains, and cocoanuts. This was due to a deficiency of rain, which was most severely felt in the Corosal District.

The experimental plantations of rubber also suffered from the same cause.

The production of cacao slightly increased, as will be seen from the following comparative table:—

Year.	Produce.
	lbs.
1903	8,934
1904	14,742
1905	18,988
1906	42,800
1907	46,435

The article produced was very satisfactory and fetched the highest market price in England.

Forty-eight sugar mills were in operation, of which ten were worked by steam, two by oil engines, and the rest by cattle.

The amount produced was (with the exception of some 45 tons exported to Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras) consumed in the Colony.

Two saw-mills started operations; one at Mullins River in the Stann Creek District, and one at Duck Run, on the Belize River, in the Cayo District.

The sponge fishery yielded 5,125 lbs., and the exports of tortoise-shell amounted to 2,987 lbs.

(C.) LAND GRANTS AND VALUE OF LAND.

Eight grants of rural land were made with an acreage of 334½ acres. Prices varied from \$1 to \$2.50 according to the locality of the land.

The area of rural land under lease was 23,020 acres in holdings, producing a rental of \$3,176.90.

The revenue from licences to cut timber amounted to \$10,632.50, as against \$7,469.56 in 1906, and \$3,411.74 in 1905.

Licences to bleed sapodilla (chicle) realised \$775.06, and rubber \$281.60.

(D.) SHIPPING.

The following tables give the number of sailing ships and steamers entered and cleared during the past five years, and the number and tonnage of British, American, and Norwegian vessels entered and cleared, respectively:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903	591	15,292	317	236,767
1904	487	13,782	289	239,117
1905	464	11,728	270	234,163
1906	712	12,410	276	218,837
1907	720	14,901	305	242,568

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903	572	15,485	307	234,203
1904	501	14,406	268	236,252
1905	520	11,621	283	238,953
1906	705	13,191	281	211,487
1907	715	14,831	306	245,572

Sailing Vessels—Entered.

Year.			British.		American.		Norwegian.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903	...	...	398	7,974	36	968	10	3,722
1904	...	...	321	8,414	8	702	2	801
1905	...	...	263	6,629	61	1,826	1	450
1906	...	...	359	7,649	35	1,629	—	—
1907	...	...	567	10,850	27	1,838	—	—

Sailing Vessels—Cleared.

Year.			British.		American.		Norwegian.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903	...	...	379	8,391	22	822	12	4,512
1904	...	...	320	8,640	10	719	2	865
1905	...	...	284	7,276	50	1,689	—	—
1906	...	...	354	7,951	35	1,677	1	450
1907	...	...	551	10,443	30	2,047	—	—

Steamers—Entered.

Year.			British.		American.		Norwegian.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903	...	...	106	117,358	80	43,199	125	75,855
1904	...	...	134	160,751	35	4,467	116	70,427
1905	...	...	125	162,016	41	4,330	98	59,641
1906	...	...	124	158,146	62	1,669	76	49,936
1907	...	...	89	110,250	61	3,106	114	92,353

Steamers—Cleared.

Year.			British.		American.		Norwegian.	
			No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1903	...	...	104	115,991	76	40,948	124	76,940
1904	...	...	130	161,465	21	3,521	107	65,088
1905	...	...	124	166,155	45	1,615	105	64,047
1906	...	...	119	150,388	73	2,057	76	50,106
1907	...	...	92	117,424	61	1,558	114	92,353

It will be seen that Norwegian steamships are replacing British steamers in the fruit trade with the United States. All new vessels entering into this trade in Central America seem to be Norwegian built. The Norwegian sailor seems to re-engage more steadily than the British or American, and this gives an advantage to Norwegian owners.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-seven Ordinances were enacted during 1907, of which the following were the most important:—

Ordinance No. 2 amends the law with regard to the distillation of spirits and provides for the introduction of the "locked still" system.

Ordinance No. 6 consolidates and amends previous Quarantine Ordinances. Its principal feature is the introduction in certain cases of a system of medical supervision of incoming passengers instead of detention in quarantine. Any passenger showing signs of illness during the period of supervision is at once isolated. The system is as safe as that of detention, and being less irksome passengers have not the same temptation to evade it.

Ordinance No. 16 provides for the inland carriage of goods in bond. This, it is hoped, will facilitate the import of goods through Belize into the Peten district of Guatemala.

Ordinance No. 20 provides for the regulation of buildings to be erected in Belize, so that due regard shall be given to sanitation and security against fire.

Ordinance No. 23 makes the Bankruptcy Law in the Colony coincide as far as possible with the law in England.

Ordinance No. 27 places the land tax on a new footing and removes several anomalies. It also provides for an increase of revenue from this source although in some instances the tax is reduced. A tax of three-quarters of a cent is now leviable on all rural lands, and an additional tax of $1\frac{1}{4}$ cents on certain cultivated lands, and the Governor, with the consent of the Legislative Council, has power to levy a special tax not exceeding 8 cents per acre on land served by a railway. The system is probably the best that can be adopted in the absence of a thorough survey of the Colony.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The system of primary education in the Colony has been established under the provisions of the "Education Ordinance, 1892." Under that Ordinance, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1894, a Central Board of Education was created, consisting of the Governor, as president, the members of the Executive Council, and five other members appointed by the Governor. The various religious denominations are represented on the Board. Most of the schools receive aid from the Government in the forms (1) of a capitation grant on the average monthly attendance; (2) of grants on account of pupil teachers employed in accordance with the Education Rules; (3) of needlework grants to schools in the out-districts; and (4) of bonuses on examination results. The expenditure of the funds voted by the Legislature in respect of education is controlled by the Central Board.

The amount expended on the primary schools during the calendar year 1907 was \$15,992.21, which comprised the following items:—

	\$
Grants to schools on their average daily attendances	14,424.31
Grants on account of pupil teachers ...	1,387.15
Needlework grants	180.75
	\$15,992.21

Although the Government Grant to the Board of Education was somewhat greater than that of the previous year it was impossible to give any bonuses on examination results for the year 1906, or grants for buildings, furniture, and apparatus. The average daily attendances so far exceeded those of previous years that the attendance grants earned exceeded the amount available. An increased grant has been provided for 1908.

The total cost of primary education in the aided schools of the Colony for the year was \$30,260.67. Of this sum the Government contributed \$17,944.60, detailed as follows:—

	\$
Grants in aid of schools	15,992.21
Expenses of administration	1,952.39

The cost per head on the total average attendance (3,043) was \$9.94. The following statement shows the cost, as compared with the two preceding years:—

	1905	1906	1907
	\$	\$	\$
Paid by Government	5.95	6.14	5.89
School Fees	.89	.85	.93
Voluntary Contributions	3.09	3.02	3.12
Totals	9.93	10.01	9.94

The average attendances during 1905, 1906, and 1907 were 2,742, 2,876, and 3,043 respectively.

The total number of schools in operation during the whole or part of the year was 40. There were 39 in 1906, and 41 in 1905.

The total number of pupils on the roll was 4,277, as compared with 3,945 in 1906, and 3,823 in 1905.

There were also in operation eight unaided primary schools with 238 pupils on the roll and 213 in average daily attendance.

The average yearly receipts of fees in the schools of the several denominations during the last three years per unit of average attendance are shown in the following table:—

Sources of Education Revenue.

Schools.	Average Attendance.			Total School Fees.			Voluntary Contributions.			Receipts of School Fees per Unit of Average Attendance.		
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Church of England ...	432	506	535	\$ 577.87	\$ 613.71	\$ 745.92	\$ 2,733.55	\$ 3,200.85	\$ 2,984.68	\$ 1.34	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.39
Roman Catholic ...	1,240	1,329	1,421	822.51	808.33	990.55	2,558.15	2,702.81	3,221.82	.66	.61	.70
Wesleyan ...	718	691	734	650.95	707.45	735.62	2,714.18	2,322.05	2,530.71	.90	1.02	1.00
Baptist ...	185	184	195	171.60	140.40	181.47	612.00	612.00	693.00	.93	.76	.72
Non-denominational ...	167	166	158	213.00	184.40	172.30	60.00	60.00	60.00	1.27	1.11	1.09
Totals ...	2,742	2,867	3,043	2,435.93	2,454.29	2,825.86	8,677.88	8,897.71	9,490.21	.89	.85	.93

The smallest proportion of fees is received in the Roman Catholic Schools. One reason for this is that they are attended by the greater portion of the Carib children and all the Indian children who go to school, the majority of whose parents are in poor circumstances and unable to pay school fees regularly.

A bonus of \$200 was awarded to the Master of a Secondary School, five of whose pupils were successful at the Cambridge Local Preliminary Examination held in November, 1906. There were no successful candidates at the 1907 examination.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITALS, ASYLUM, AND POOR-HOUSE.

The following table shows the number of patients under treatment and care in the various institutions during 1907:—

Institutions.	Remaining at beginning of 1907.	Admitted.	Discharged.	Died.	Remained at end of 1907.	Daily Average.
Belize Hospital ...	41	581	495	93	34	43.30
Corosal Hospital ...	9	93	83	13	6	4.26
Orange Walk Hospital	5	87	75	14	4	5.20
Belize :—						
Lunatic Asylum ...	45	15	3	1	56	50.71
Poor-house ...	33	15	5	13	30	28.77

SAVINGS BANKS.

There are six savings banks conducted by the Government, one in the chief town of each district. The total number of depositors was 588. Deposits amounted to \$23,592.42 and withdrawals to \$20,996.04. The total amount to the credit of depositors at the end of 1907 was \$70,548.90.

The rate of interest allowed is 3 per cent. per annum.

The amount of invested funds is \$67,663.75.

VI.—JUDICIAL.

(A.) POLICE.

The authorised strength was one superintendent, one assistant, and 98 non-commissioned officers and men. Special constables are engaged at Christmas time and also when required for quarantine. Owing to the development of the Colony it will be necessary to somewhat increase the establishment.

(B.) PRISONS.

The following table gives the total number of prisoners committed to all the prisons in the Colony for penal imprisonment, and the daily average number of prisoners in the Belize Prison from 1903-1907:—

Year.	Prisoners committed for Penal Imprisonment.	Daily average in Belize Prison.
1903	367	49.31
1904	250	58.41
1905	299	54.32
1906	420	54.24
1907	304	60.35

Convicted prisoners are employed out of doors on various public works. Within the prison they are employed in tailoring, printing, book-binding, carpentry, tin-smithing, and the manufacture of brooms, fibre mats, mattresses, ship fenders, &c. Discipline was good, and there were only 51 punishments. No corporal punishment has been inflicted on a prisoner since the year 1900. The health of the prisoners and warders was good, and there were no deaths.

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year 1907 was 1,538, or 237 more than in 1906. The number of persons summarily convicted was 943, or 25 more than in 1906.

Informations were filed against 45 persons in the Supreme Court. Judgment was given for the Crown in 31 cases, and for the prisoner in 9. A *nolle prosequi* was entered by the Attorney-General in 5 cases.

There was one conviction for murder, two for manslaughter, and one for rape. Thirteen convictions were obtained for other offences against the person, and 9 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The estimated mean population for the year was 42,406, consisting of 21,606 males and 20,800 females.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The following table prepared by the Registrar-General, furnishes comparative statistics for the past ten years of the causes of death in the Colony:—

Year.	Diseases.									
	Malarial Fevers.	Dysentery.	Small pox.	Yellow Fever.	Measles.	Phthisis, Pulmonary.	Nervous Diseases.	Circulatory Diseases.	Respiratory Diseases.	Intestinal Diseases.
1898	10·8	1·5	—	—	—	1·5	3·5	·5	2·6	1·3
1899	9·2	1·9	—	—	—	1·6	3·6	·4	4·7	2·5
1900	8·6	1·1	—	—	—	1·0	3·3	·7	1·7	1·6
1901	9·4	1·5	—	—	—	0·9	2·8	·9	1·7	1·9
1902	8·8	1·3	—	—	—	0·9	1·5	1·0	1·9	2·1
1903	8·6	1·0	—	—	—	1·3	2·7	·4	1·6	1·7
1904	8·1	0·9	—	—	—	1·2	2·1	·5	1·4	2·1
1905	9·3	1·3	—	0·173	—	1·3	1·9	·6	2·0	2·8
1906	9·6	0·9	—	—	—	1·6	1·9	·4	4·7	2·0
1907	7·0	0·7	—	—	—	1·5	2·6	2·7	1·8	3·1

The following table shows the number of deaths for every 100 births registered during the years 1902-6, inclusive, according to their race classification, and as compared with 1907:—

Race.	Deaths for every 100 births, 1902-06	Deaths for every 100 births, 1907.
Indian	114·2	78·5
Carib	48·2	63·6
Negro	58·7	50·7
Other races... ..	79·6	57·9

The birth-rate was 36·62, and the mortality 22·19 per 1,000.

The number of illegitimate births was 639, out of a total of 1,553.

456 marriages took place during the year, being at the rate of 10·75 per 1,000 of the mean population.

The following table gives the number of births, marriages, and deaths, and the rate per 1,000 of births and deaths for the last five years:—

Year.	Births.	Birth rate per 1,000.	Marriages.	Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000.
1903 ...	1,513	38·8	351	1,043	26·7
1904 ...	1,500	37·8	386	989	24·9
1905 ...	1,403	34·7	423	1,331	32·9
1906 ...	1,349	32·9	385	1,228	29·9
1907 ...	1,553	36·6	456	941	22·1

During 1907 the excess of male over female births was 83, and of male over female deaths, 79.

(C.) CLIMATE.

*Summary of Meteorological Observations taken at Belize
for the year 1907.*

Month.	Barometer, corrected.		Relative Humidity.		Shade Temperature.		Rain.	
	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	No. of days.	Inch.
January	30·172	29·952	88	62	97	82	9	16·55
February	30·222	29·940	88	68	97	76	7	12·50
March ...	30·210	29·960	87	69	97	87	Nil	Nil
April ...	30·201	29·949	94	66	94	74	Nil	Nil
May ...	30·251	29·880	90	68	97	80	1	·20
June ...	30·247	29·848	92	70	97	80	6	2·77
July ...	30·206	29·842	89	69	97	82	8	9·70
August...	30·307	29·880	92	70	97	82	6	7·00
September	30·263	29·850	92	71	97	83	9	5·00
October...	30·215	29·856	97	76	90	65	14	13·20
November	30·197	29·899	100	82	90	73	13	11·25
December	30·206	29·756	99	83	90	65	7	13·00
	30·224	29·884	92·3	71·3	95	77·4	80	91·17

The average rainfall for the 10 years 1898-1907 in Belize was 90·93 inches; the maximum—114·21 inches—being in 1900, and the minimum—65·89 inches—in 1902. But 1907 had the smallest number of days on which rain fell.

Comparative Return.

Year.	Rainfall, in Inches.	No. of Days on which rain fell.
1898 ...	102·04	155
1899 ...	80·47	152
1900 ...	114·12	160
1901 ...	83·6	116
1902 ...	65·89	107
1903 ...	70·90	118
1904 ...	87·	119
1905 ...	106·42	109
1906 ...	99·32	102
1907 ...	91·17	80

VIII.—POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

(A.) POSTAL SERVICE.

The total revenue of the Post Office for the calendar year was \$15,405.34, as compared with \$11,449.44 in 1906.

The total expenditure for salaries and wages and all expenses of postal service (including money and postal order business) within the Colony was \$10,339.20; and for conveyance of mails beyond the Colony \$12,000, making a total expenditure of \$22,339.20.

The numbers of letters and other articles sent and received from abroad from 1903-1907 was as follows:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Ordinary letters ...	142,020	152,960	157,265	157,790	179,084
Registered letters ...	8,104	7,951	8,015	8,996	9,778
Post-cards ...	7,775	12,053	18,585	17,763	24,638
Newspapers, books, &c.	94,777	100,347	103,160	103,679	112,180
Postal parcels... ..	2,862	3,484	4,204	4,978	5,234

The amount of inland correspondence for the same period is given in the following table:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Letters ...	66,749	68,886	64,798	66,001	82,997
Registered articles }			2,578	2,563	3,793
Post-cards ...	2,444	1,375	1,547	1,398	1,485
Newspapers, books, and parcels.	11,803	9,994	9,789	13,189	11,285

The transactions in connection with the money-order system from 1903 to 1907 were as follows:—

Money-Orders issued on the United Kingdom and British Colonies.

					£	s.	d.
1903	...	...	...	...	1,095	13	0
1904	...	...	...	...	1,441	6	7
1905	...	...	...	...	1,476	12	2
1906	...	...	...	...	1,375	0	1
1907	...	...	...	...	1,627	10	5

Money-Orders issued on the United States of America.

					\$
1903	...	...	...	...	3,846.63
1904	...	...	...	...	4,415.44
1905	...	...	...	...	6,470.04
1906	...	...	...	...	8,887.10
1907	...	...	...	...	25,113.88

Money-Orders drawn on the Colony by the United Kingdom and British Colonies:

					£	s.	d.
1903	...	...	...	...	247	18	2
1904	...	...	...	...	229	5	2
1905	...	...	...	...	232	15	1
1906	...	...	...	...	295	8	4
1907	...	...	...	...	431	17	5

Money-Orders drawn on the Colony by the U.S.A.

					\$
1903	...	...	...	...	333.55
1904	...	...	...	...	404.61
1905	...	...	...	...	809.65
1906	...	...	...	...	1,435.72
1907	...	...	...	...	2,098.89

(B.) TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

The following is a comparative table of the telegraph and telephone transactions for the years 1904, 1905, 1906, and 1907:—

—	Telephone Calls.	Telegrams.	Total.
1904	6,926	2,422	9,348
1905	15,305	7,992	3,297
1906	14,887	10,195	25,082
1907	19,023	12,089	31,112

The working expenses of the system amounted to \$9,398.93, and the receipts to \$5,465.22.

The route of the northern line between Orange Walk and Corosal has been changed, and the line now follows the high road and brings the important village of San Estevan into communication. The service on the northern line is now fairly regular.

The southern section is not so satisfactory, but is being improved.

There is no regular through communication with places beyond the Colony; but a private firm has made arrangements for receiving telegrams at Consejo in this Colony, sending them by boat to Payo Obispo and then transmitting them by the Mexican line. This line has been subject to occasional interruptions, but usually telegrams sent to or from Belize reach their destination within 24 hours. Negotiations are in progress with the Mexican Government for the establishment of a through service.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

The amount expended on the volunteer force in 1907-8 was \$6,933. The establishment consists of 200 Light Infantry and 50 Mounted Infantry. This has been the average strength of the force, all retirements having been quickly met by new enlistments.

In June the force offered its services to assist the police in dealing with some Indians in the Cayo District who had fired on the local police. The services of 16 mounted men were accepted as special constables. Absence of trustworthy guides prevented them from catching the Indians against whom the expedition was directed. These succeeded in crossing over the frontier into Guatemala, but order was restored and has not since been disturbed.

Within a few days of the departure of this expedition the Acting District Commissioner at Stann Creek reported that a military force was necessary to deal with a lot of labourers from Jamaica, imported for work on the railway, who not only refused to work for the agreed wages but by intimidation prevented others from working. The Governor asked the Senior Officer to provide 50 men. Within four hours 150 men were ready for embarkation. Of these 100 were promptly embarked. The force returned in three days with men who had been sentenced by the Court, and the following day some 400 persons were working peacefully on the railway. A fresh batch of labourers from Jamaica arrived in Belize at this time and gave some trouble, and the volunteers were called out to aid the police.

The force displayed by the Government was too great for resistance to be possible, and none was offered.

In November Major Maxwell, on account of ill-health, temporarily retired from the command, which was conferred on Captain Slack, who was promoted to the rank of Major.

In January, 1908, the Colony was visited by H.M.S. "Brilliant," and two rifle matches took place between teams from the ship and from the Volunteers. In one match the rifles were supplied by the Volunteer Force, and in the other by the ship. In each match the team supplying the rifles was victorious.

The annual camp in March, 1908, lasted one day more than usual, and was attended by 9 officers and 139 non-commissioned officers and men with 30 horses. There were also 19 camp followers and two transport mules. As usual the mercantile firms in Belize showed public spirit in providing free transport.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The Colony was fortunate in being free from quarantinable diseases. Vigilance was necessary owing to the existence of yellow fever in a neighbouring republic. Thanks to our new system of medical supervision in lieu of detention quarantine practically permits commerce to be undisturbed. Doctors appointed by the Government at the expense of the fruit steamers accompany these vessels south, and see that the labourers taken on at Belize are not employed where there would be risk of infection. They, therefore, receive pratique on their return to the Colony instead of having to remain in practically constant quarantine, as had to be the case in 1905 and 1906.

In July news was received of the existence of small-pox at the Mexican town of Payo Obispo, with which this Colony has daily communication. Fortunately the Commandante made known the existence of the disease as soon as it was discovered, and accepted the assistance offered him by the Colonial Surgeon. A system of vaccination by districts on both sides of the Hondo River, and as far as Bacalar Chico on the Mexican coast, was arranged, in which the Colonial Surgeon, Assistant Colonial Surgeon Kellett, and Hospital Attendant Clutterbuck took part, as did also Dr. Kipps, medical attendant at the Camp of the Mengel Bros. Co. on the Mexican side of the Hondo. There appear to have been three cases of the disease in Payo Obispo, but the measures taken were successful in preventing its spread. The action of the Mexican Commandante probably saved both his district and the Colony from a troublesome outbreak.

While exempt from quarantinable disease, the Colony suffered from an outbreak of dengue fever which, according to the estimate of the Colonial Surgeon, attacked 45 per cent. of the population. Two deaths were reported from this cause; but they were complicated with recent malaria. Apparently no case of simple dengue ended fatally. A noted American physician has said that in its early stages this fever is more like yellow fever than a mild case of yellow fever is, and three cases were isolated as possible yellow fever. All doubts were removed, however, in the later stages. The observations made by medical men during the course of the epidemic are consistent with the conclusions of the United States Commission which investigated this fever in the Philippine Islands. The *Culex Fatigans* was found in every infected house. The *Stegomyia Fasciata* could not be found in Belize. Persons who had had yellow fever in Belize and elsewhere were attacked by dengue. No person was attacked who was known to have had the fever before. In one house a child had it, while the parents who had had it 21 years before escaped. The coloured population suffered as much as the white.

The general health of the Colony was good. The death-rate was the lowest on record, viz.:—22·19 per 1,000 with a birth-

rate of 36·64. The death-rate from malaria in the Belize District was only 1·52 per 1,000, and this includes cases originating in other districts. The town of Belize was remarkably free from this fever. Many causes no doubt have contributed to this state of things. The clearing to the west of the town was gone over carefully and advantage was taken of the dry season to burn off. Much remains to be done for the sanitation of Belize, but the town is more sanitary than at first sight one would suppose, as the water in most of the low-lying lots is crowded with small fish that keep down mosquitoes.

The Colony, and especially the town of Belize, was visited by an unusually long spell of dry weather lasting over three months. The water supply of the town ran short and drinking-water had to be fetched from Manatee, a distance of 20 miles. The United Fruit Company and Messrs. Orr, Laubenheimer and Co. also kindly sent water from New Orleans and Mobile and presented it to the town. The drought retarded the progress of some new rubber plantations. Apart from this it did little or no injury to the Colony. Many poor people suffered from the scarcity of drinking-water and the necessity of having to send for other water to the wells, which were crowded with people waiting their turn. The seriousness of the drought was due not so much to its length as to its being so unusual and unexpected that no adequate preparations had been made to meet it.

A commencement was made in the construction of the Stann Creek Railway, which it has been decided shall have a length of 25 miles with a three feet gauge. Trains will run on to a pier which will accommodate vessels drawing over 20 feet of water.

A new road from Belize was commenced, or rather an old road which had been begun and abandoned a generation ago was continued.

The difficulty of carrying the road through the swamp was overcome by the use of a Priestman dredger, which cut its way through from Jones's Lagoon to the sea. The soil it removed in making a channel for itself was used to form a roadbed. It proved to be of firmer material than had been expected, and there is no doubt of the durability of the road. The canal formed at the side has reduced the level of the water in the swamp and drained low land beyond it. It also affords a means by which small boats may enter the Sibun River without having to cross the dangerous bar. The road when completed will give a shorter and better road to the Cayo, as well as to the Manatee lands, and will open up some fair land near Belize. The scheme also includes a small canal from the Sibun to the Manatee lagoon.

The construction of the Stann Creek Railway renders available for agriculture a large area of Crown and private land. Lots of Crown land are now being laid out and will shortly

be offered to public competition. The minimum price will be from \$2 to \$2.50 per acre; but purchasers will be under an obligation to put a certain proportion into cultivation within a given time. The British Honduras and Western Lands Syndicates (whose address in England is Parliament Chambers, 5, Parliament Street, Hull) also own large tracts of land on both sides of the railway, and it is believed are willing to sell or lease on reasonable terms. Bananas can be raised within eighteen months from commencing operations, and the demand at profitable prices is almost unlimited. Six fruit steamers call every month from New Orleans or Mobile.

Besides fruit it is proved that cocoanuts or cacao can be grown with profit. There is every reason to believe that rubber will also pay.

Steamers from Liverpool call every five or six weeks, and goods imported from Great Britain can be purchased locally at reasonable rates.

Eight steamers of the Scrutton Line were despatched to London, laden principally with timber.

The United Fruit Company of Boston have started a monthly steamer service with New York. The steamers reach Belize within seven days of their departure from New York. The return journey is *viâ* Southern ports and takes about a fortnight.

Mr. Porter, the District Commissioner of Belize, retired on pension on the 31st March, and the office of District Commissioner was amalgamated with that of the Registrar General, Mr. H. K. M. Sisnett being appointed to the combined post.

H. B. WALCOTT,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained
from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent... ..	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907-1908

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria ...	Mineral Survey (1904-5).
47	Do. do. ...	Do. (1905-6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c. ...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria ...	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa ...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 570.

HONG KONG.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 521.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1908.



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[Cd. 3729-34.] *Price 2d.*

No. 570.

H O N G K O N G .

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 521.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Hong Kong,

24th June, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit for Your Lordship's information the following general Report on the annual Blue Book for the year 1907:—

I.—FINANCES.

The revenue for the year, exclusive of land sales, amounted to \$6,442,529 or \$179,540 less than the previous year. Land sales amounted to \$159,750, or \$155,982 less than in 1906. The total revenue from all sources was therefore \$6,602,280, or \$432,731 less than in the previous year. All the main sources of revenue show an excess over 1906 with the exception of licences, rent of Government property, interest, and land sales.

Light dues, licences, fees of Court, Post Office receipts, and rent of Government property brought in together \$300,504 more than was estimated. The receipts under the remaining heads of revenue were, all together, \$146,249 less than were anticipated when the estimates were drawn up.

The expenditure for the year was \$5,028,553, exclusive of public works extraordinary; inclusive of that item it was \$5,757,203, or \$1,075,407 less than the total expenditure of 1906.

Deducting from the actual receipts for 1907 the total actual expenditure, there was a surplus of \$845,076 on the actual working of the year.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The following is a brief abstract of revenue and expenditure for the years 1906 and 1907:—

Revenue.

—	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Light Dues	77,722.04	80,389.00	2,666.96	—
Licences and internal revenue not otherwise specified.	4,765,227.78	4,580,468.75	—	284,759.03
Fees of Court, &c.	470,151.53	498,621.05	28,469.52	—
Post Office	420,454.04	445,420.92	24,966.88	—
Rent of Government property ...	826,699.20	809,617.90	—	17,051.30
Interest	8,068.42	—	—	8,068.42
Miscellaneous	53,747.24	77,982.84	24,235.10	—
Water Account	—	—	—	—
Land sales	315,733.21	159,750.29	—	155,982.92
Amount transferred from Praya Reclamation Fund.	97,208.32	—	—	97,208.32
Total ...	7,035,011.78	6,602,280.25	80,338.46	513,069.99
		Deduct increase		80,338.46
		Nett decrease		432,731.53

Expenditure.

—	1906.	1907.	Increase.	Decrease.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Non-effective charges ...	333,823.31	313,658.67	—	20,164.64
General administration ...	1,404,287.42	1,954,695.00	—	369,592.42
Law and order ...	832,919.87	847,418.62	14,498.75	—
Public health ...	659,413.66	648,951.51	—	10,462.15
Public instruction ...	162,973.32	184,028.19	21,054.87	—
Public works ...	2,086,655.96	1,468,857.48	—	617,798.48
Defence ...	1,352,537.14	1,259,594.00	—	92,943.14
Total ...	6,832,610.68	5,757,203.47	85,553.62	1,110,960.33
		Deduct increase ...	...	35,553.62
		Nett decrease ...	\$	1,075,407.21

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure for the five years 1903-1907:—

—	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Revenue ...	5,238,857.88	6,809,047.99	6,918,403.85	7,055,011.78	6,602,280.25
Expenditure ...	5,396,669.48	6,376,235.30	6,951,275.26	6,832,610.68	5,757,203.47
Surplus ...	—	432,812.69	—	202,401.10	845,076.78
Deficit ...	157,811.60	—	32,871.41	—	—

from which it will be seen that both revenue and expenditure for the year were lower than at any time since 1903.

(B.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

At the end of the year 1907, the assets of the Colony amounted to \$2,650,733.99, or, including arrears of revenue, \$2,739,712.32. The total liabilities were \$1,205,995.13, so that the surplus of assets over liabilities amounted to \$1,533,717.19.

(C.) PUBLIC DEBT.

Inscribed Stock at 3½ per cent. interest, £341,799 15s. 1d. incurred for Praya Reclamation; Central Market; water, drainage, and sewerage works, &c., to be paid off on 15th April, 1943.

Inscribed Stock at 3½ per cent. interest (loan of £1,100,000 at 4½ per cent. to Viceroy of Wuchang) £1,143,933 1s. 4d. (Amount repaid by Viceroy placed to credit of Special Account £220,000, which has been advanced therefrom for Railway construction.) Sinking fund commences in 1911.

The amount paid into the Joint Sinking Fund with accrued interest reached £61,813 4s. 4d.* on the 31st of December, 1907.

II.—TRADE AND SHIPPING, INDUSTRIES, FISHERIES, AGRICULTURE, AND LAND.

(A.) TRADE AND SHIPPING.

The total of the shipping entering and clearing at ports in the Colony during the year 1907 shows an increase of 77,908 vessels of 3,281,042 tons when compared with the corresponding figures for 1906, in which year there was a decrease of 1,437,823 tons due to loss of local vessels in the typhoon. The greater part of this is due to internal traffic—"steamships not exceeding 60 tons plying within the waters of the Colony." If local trade be eliminated, it is found that the remaining figures show the respectable increase of 3,110 vessels of 579,814 tons.

This increase is distributed as follows:—

British ocean-going vessels, 59 ships of 26,698 tons.
Foreign ocean-going vessels, 334 ships of 627,380 tons.
British River steamers, 364 ships with a decrease in tonnage of 212,137 tons.
Foreign river steamers, 239 ships of 76,075 tons.
Steamships not exceeding 60 tons, 703 ships of 29,739 tons.
Junks in foreign trade, 1,411 vessels of 32,059 tons.

The actual figures of arrivals and departures are as follows:—

Foreign Trade.

Of British Ocean-going.	{	1,876 arrivals	of	3,605,941 tons.
		1,880 departures	"	3,610,228 "
Of Foreign Ocean-going.	{	2,306 arrivals	"	3,861,570 "
		2,315 departures	"	3,859,305 "
Of British River steamers.	{	3,412 arrivals	"	2,316,889 "
		3,416 departures	"	2,313,475 "
Of Foreign River steamers.	{	655 arrivals	"	371,996 "
		655 departures	"	371,996 "
Of Steamships not exceeding 60 tons.	{	791 arrivals	"	3,015 "
		790 departures	"	3,006 "
Of Junks in Foreign Trade.	{	14,782 arrivals	"	1,320,892 "
		14,782 departures	"	1,330,578 "
Total Foreign Trade		23,822 arrivals	"	11,512,303 "
		23,838 departures	"	11,520,588 "

* This includes the sum of £14,352 8s. 1d. surplus of interest paid by the Viceroy on the loan of £1,100,000.

Local Trade.

Of Steamships not exceeding 60 tons.	{ 209,601 arrivals	of 5,608,266 tons.
	{ 209,601 departures	„ 5,608,266 „
Of Junks in Local Trade.	{ 20,820 arrivals	„ 892,818 „
	{ 19,952 departures	„ 586,069 „
Total Local Trade	{ 230,421 arrivals	„ 6,501,084 „
	{ 229,553 departures	„ 6,494,335 „
Grand Total Local and Foreign.	{ 254,243 arrivals	„ 18,013,387 „
	{ 253,391 departures	„ 18,014,923 „

Thus in foreign trade:—

	Per cent.
British ocean-going vessels represented	... 31·4
Foreign ocean-going vessels represented	... 33·5
British river steamers represented	... 20·1
Foreign river steamers represented	... 3·2
Steamships not exceeding 60 tons represented	... 0·3
Junks represented	... 11·5
	100·0

While in local trade:—

Steamships not exceeding 60 tons represented	... 86·3
Junks represented	... 13·7
	100·0

The movements of the “Star” Co.’s ferry launches, of private steam-launches, and of fishing junks do not appear in the above figures.

Eight thousand two hundred and thirty-nine (8,239) steamers, 10 sailing ships and 791 steamships not exceeding 60 tons, in foreign trade, entered during the year, giving an average daily entry of 24·77 European-constructed foreign-going ships, as compared with 22·5 in 1906.

The average tonnage of ocean-going vessels entered has increased slightly, from 1,784·9 to 1,785·6 tons, while that of river steamers has declined from 734 to 661 tons. The British ocean average has decreased from 1,945 to 1,921 tons. The foreign ocean average has increased from 1,654 to 1,670 tons. The British river steamer average has declined from 749 to 678 tons and the foreign river steamer average has declined from 623 to 567 tons.

A comparison between the years 1906 and 1907 shows:—

For ocean vessels under the British flag, an increase of 59 ships of 26,698 tons.

In British river steamers an increase of 364 ships with a decreased tonnage of 212,137 tons, which is mainly due to the withdrawal of the large sized steamer *Hankow* and the addition of the two small Macao steamers *Sui Tai* and *Sui An*.

For foreign ocean vessels an increase of 334 ships of 627,380 tons is shown, which is wholly due to the Japanese firms increasing their carrying trade. Under this flag, an increase of 455 ships of 976,450 tons is found, with a general falling off under other flags.

For foreign river steamers an increase of 238 ships of 76,075 tons is shown, which can be accounted for by vessels under the German, Chinese, and Portuguese flags making more trips in 1907 than in 1906.

For junks in foreign trade, an increase of 1,411 vessels of 32,059 tons.

A decrease in local junk trade, 10,844 vessels of 263,768 tons which may be ascribed to the cessation of the naval extension work and to the falling off in conservancy boats.

The actual number of individual ocean-going ships of European construction entering during the year was 800, being 362 British and 438 foreign.

These 800 ships aggregated 1,860,245 tons. They entered 4,182 times and gave a collective tonnage of 7,467,511 tons. Thus compared with 1906, 70 less ships of 73,514 less tons, entered 170 more times and gave a collective tonnage increased by 306,183 tons.

The 800 vessels were divided as follows between the several nationalities:—

Vessels entered.	Times.	Total tonnage.
355 British Steamers	... 1,867	3,586,510
9 Austrian "	... 30	106,523
1 Belgian "	... 1	2,903
20 Chinese "	... 214	267,789
2 Corean "	... 14	21,298
9 Danish "	... 21	41,122
18 Dutch "	... 69	142,100
33 French "	... 202	294,461
137 German "	... 790	1,246,053
3 Italian "	... 12	31,704
111 Japanese "	... 534	1,126,517
59 Norwegian "	... 290	265,728
2 Portuguese "	... 59	19,128
10 Russian "	... 13	30,912
3 Swedish "	... 11	12,970
20 United States Steamers	45	251,590
7 British Sailing Ships	9	19,431
1 United States "	1	72
Total 800	4,182	7,467,511

The figures relating to the import and export trade of the port, given in previous years, have, as pointed out annually, been based upon information which can only be characterised as unsatisfactory and the results as erroneous and misleading. As it is obvious that such returns have no value, they are discontinued in the form they have hitherto taken, but the aggregates of the reports received are shown, for purposes of comparison, in round numbers. These include imports of sugar and imports and exports of opium, of which accurate returns are rendered.

The aggregates show an increase of about 360,000 tons in imports, of about 191,000 tons in exports, and of about 518,000 tons in transit cargo.

The total reported import and transit trade of the port for 1907 amounted to 23,819 vessels of 11,512,223 tons carrying about 8,237,000 tons of cargo of which about 4,841,000 tons were discharged at Hong Kong.

Similarly, the export trade of the port was represented by 23,841 vessels of 11,520,668 tons, carrying about 3,049,000 tons of cargo, and shipping about 729,000 tons of bunker coal.

During the year 1907, 16,515 vessels of European and American construction of 20,311,400 tons (net register), reported having carried about 10,842,000 tons of cargo, as follows:—

				Tons.
Import cargo	...	...	...	4,366,000
Export cargo	...	...	...	2,355,000
Transit cargo	...	...	...	3,396,000
Bunker coal shipped	...	...	...	725,000
				10,842,000

One hundred and five thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven (105,967) emigrants left Hong Kong for various places during the year. Of these 78,576 were carried in British ships and 27,391 in foreign ships. The year 1907 has proved to be the record year in the history of the Colony for the numbers of emigrants shipped.

One hundred and forty-five thousand eight hundred and twenty-two (145,822) immigrants were reported as having been brought to Hong Kong from the several places to which they had emigrated, either from this Colony or from coast ports. This includes 905 returning from South Africa. Of the total number, 112,742 arrived in British ships and 33,080 in foreign ships.

The total revenue collected by the Harbour Department during the year was \$348,300 (including \$24,098 previously collected by the Registrar-General's Department for boat licences, the issuing of which was transferred to this depart-

ment from the 1st January, 1907), as against \$298,106 collected in the previous year, showing an increase of \$50,193:—

	\$
1. Light Dues	80,389.00
2. Licences and Internal Revenue...	116,122.40
3. Fees of Court and Office ...	151,746.30
4. Miscellaneous Receipts	42.40
Total	\$348,300.10

(B.) INDUSTRIES.

During 1907 the price of refined sugars in the East still further declined, principally as a result of the lower cost of raw sugar, but also owing to the determined competition of Japanese refineries seeking to capture the local refineries' old established Chinese connections. The quantity of sugar refined in Hong Kong was however larger than for years past, and was disposed of in China and other markets, although at a loss in some instances, and on very small margins of profit in others. By the end of 1907 the strenuous competition from Japanese quarters had however, exhausted itself, and it is confidently expected by those best able to form an opinion that local industries will be able to maintain and improve their position.

The demand for yarn during 1907 was even more unsatisfactory than during the previous year, which was undoubtedly due to the failure of almost every yarn shop in the Colony. These failures threw a quantity of yarn on the market which had to be disposed of at a reduction of \$20/25 per bale on the contract price. Owing to the large stocks on hand it was found necessary to decrease the output of the local cotton mill by reducing the number of spindles running, and during the last three months of the year "short time" was also resorted to.

Both exchange and the price of raw material have been in favour of the rope factory, enabling them to reduce their selling price to their customers to a lower limit than for some years. On the other hand the lower price induced a greater demand and the factory's turnover accordingly showed a fair increase.

No further additions have been made to the plant of the Cement Company, which with a good demand for cement has been kept continuously employed throughout the year.

The flour mills at Junk Bay were kept running continuously night and day, including many Sundays.

Four hundred and twenty-two (422) vessels of 1,001,001 tons and 112 launches, lighters, &c., were docked and repaired,

compared with 449 vessels of 1,063,454 tons and 79 launches, lighters, &c., in 1906. One hundred and eleven (111) steam-launches and other vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 6,311 were built during the year.

A small new industry has recently been established in this Colony, *i.e.*, that pursued by the Wai San Knitting Co., Ltd., but the Company is still in its infancy.

Another recently established industry is carried on by the Imperial Brewing Co., Ltd. Large quantities of their products are being exported to the various ports in China. The capacity of the plant is 2,750,000 gallons per annum.

(C.) FISHERIES.

A considerable proportion of the boat-population of Hong Kong supports itself by deep-sea fishing, in which pursuit a large number of junks are engaged. The villages of Aberdeen, Stanley, Shaukiwan, and many others in the New Territories are largely dependent upon this industry for their prosperity. Fresh-water fish is imported from Canton and the West River. There are oyster beds of considerable value in Deep Bay.

(D.) FORESTRY, BOTANICAL SCIENCE, AND AGRICULTURE.

In Hong Kong fifty-four thousand two hundred and ninety-five (54,295) pits were dug and sown with pine seeds by the departmental staff. Thirty thousand pits were sown by contract with no result in the majority of cases. In the New Territories 111,156 pits were dug by contract and sown by the department; while 24,557 were planted by the department, and 8,000 by contract. One hundred and fifty-two shade trees were planted in streets in Kowloon, and 45 in streets in Hong Kong; while 265 trees were planted along the newly formed banks of May Road and Conduit Road. Six hundred and ninety-six bamboos were planted along roads at the Peak and elsewhere, while 92 hydrangeas and 102 azaleas were planted out on Crown land in various parts of the peak.

(E.) LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

The amount received from sales of Crown Land was \$161,459, being \$154,274 less than the receipts for the previous year. This falling off may be attributed to the continued depression of business throughout the year and to general tightness of the money market. The principal items were for sites for a cigar factory in Kowloon and for a brewery at Lai Chi Kok in the New Territories, a lot at North Point, and land for an extension of the Standard Oil Company's new premises at Lai Chi Kok.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Sixteen Ordinances were passed during 1907, two of which, No. 9 of 1907 and No. 10 of 1907, afford facilities to certain foreign companies for carrying on their business in the Colony in the same manner as if they had been incorporated under the law of the Colony; whilst another, No. 6 of 1907, continued the incorporation granted under the Ordinance of 1866 of the leading local banking concern for a further period of 21 years and empowered it to increase its capital subject to certain conditions.

A Life Insurance Companies Ordinance (No. 11 of 1907) was passed in accordance with Imperial precedent, to secure the solvency and permanency of companies carrying on the business of life insurance in the Colony.

A Seditious Publications Ordinance (No. 15 of 1907) was enacted in order to prohibit the publication in the Colony of matter calculated to excite disorder, or to incite to crime, in China.

A Companies (Local Registers) Ordinance (No. 16 of 1907) was passed based on the Imperial Act of 1883 and makes provision for companies registered in the Colony but carrying on business elsewhere, to keep local registers of members.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The number of Government and Grant Schools, including Queen's College, is 79, of which 25 are Upper Grade Schools with a staff competent to give instruction in all the subjects of Standard VII. and 54 are Lower Grade Schools under purely native management. Generally speaking, the Upper Grade Schools are taught in English, and the Lower Grade Schools are taught in the vernacular.

The total number of pupils in average attendance at Government and Grant Schools was 5,924 against 5,496 in 1906. Of these, 2,144 were in Government and 3,780 in Grant Schools: 3,569 pupils received instruction in English, and 2,355 in the vernacular. The proportion of boys to girls was 3,761 to 2,163.

The revenue derived from school fees was \$49,223, \$30,442 of which was received from Queen's College.

The expenditure including that on Queen's College was \$184,028, being 3·19 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Colony.

Hygiene has now become one of the regular subjects of study in all Government and Grant Schools, English and vernacular.

The manual on Hygiene issued to the English schools has been translated into Chinese and is in use in all the vernacular grant schools.

The annual competition for the challenge shield presented by Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., took place in December. Seven teams entered for the competition. There was no competition in the advanced course this year.

Evening Continuation Classes opened in October, 1906, and were continued until the end of May, 1907, when they closed for the summer. Examinations were held at the end of the session, and certificates were granted to successful students.

In May a committee was appointed to inquire into the subject of instruction at the evening classes. A report was published in September with the result that the classes were reorganised and, under the title of the Hong Kong Technical Institute, reopened in October.

The object of the Institute is to afford facilities for a commercial and scientific training to students generally, and to enable those who have left school to continue their studies.

The following table shows the subjects taught at the Technical Institute, and the number of students who entered for each subject:—

Engineering Section.	{	Building Construction	...	...	28
		Field Surveying	...	...	21
		Machine Drawing	...	...	21
		Steam...	...	...	23
		Mechanics: Elementary	...	...	18
		Do. Advanced	...	...	12
		Mathematics: Elementary	...	...	9
		Do. Advanced	...	...	10
		English: Junior	...	...	41
		Do. Senior	...	...	25
Commerce Section.	{	French: Junior	...	...	23
		Do. Senior	...	...	9
		German: Junior	...	...	5
		Do. Senior	...	...	6
		Shorthand: Elementary	...	...	35
		Do. Advanced	...	...	9
Science Section.	{	Book-keeping	...	...	19
		Chemistry: Theoretical	...	...	14
		Do. Practical	...	...	12
		Physics: Elementary	...	...	10
		Do. Advanced	...	...	5
Total ...					355

The total expenditure during the first session of the Technical Institute was \$4,412; total receipts (students' fees) were \$1,377.

The classes were attended for the most part by Chinese, but a considerable number of Europeans also attended. The students take a deep interest in their work and generally have made very great progress in their studies.

There is a well equipped chemical laboratory. The lecturers are for the most part officers belonging to the public works, education, and medical departments and Queen's College who receive fees for their lectures.

Visual Instruction.—Arrangements have now been made by which regular courses of lectures are delivered during the cool weather at the prominent Government and grant schools in the Colony, illustrated by the lanterns which were purchased in 1905.

Many schools which had no opportunity of taking the course when the lanterns first arrived took the course for the first time this year, and to them the sets of slides were quite new, but in the case of several schools the lectures covered the same ground as last year. It will be necessary to vary these lectures, which have again been full of interest to all concerned, next year by the addition of some new sets of slides, and the suggestion that they should illustrate emigrant life in Canada, Australia, and other parts of the Empire appears a very happy one.

V.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The principal public works in progress during the year, exclusive of the railway, were the Tytam Tuk Waterworks (1st section) and the Kowloon Waterworks, both of which have been described in previous reports. The former were practically completed and fair progress was made with the latter, which are now in such a forward state as to be fully capable of supplying the whole peninsula with water. The extension of the distribution system to the important villages of Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, and Taikoktsui was completed and the substitution of mains of larger diameter for those originally laid at Kowloon Point was in progress to ensure an efficient supply of water for fire extinction purposes, the erection of large godowns being in progress there.

The new Law Courts and new Government Offices were still under construction, whilst the Public Mortuary near Yaumati and the Time Ball Tower on Blackhead's Hill, Kowloon, were completed. A new building to accommodate the Land Office at Tai Po, which had hitherto been housed in a temporary

matshed structure, was in progress: a new market at Sai-Wan-Ho, near Shaukiwan, was practically completed: an extension of the staff quarters at the Government Civil Hospital was undertaken to afford accommodation for the nurses hitherto supported by the Nursing Institute; and a jinricksha shelter was erected close to the Star Ferry pier in Salisbury Road, Kowloon. As the construction of the railway involved the demolition of the slaughter house and cattle depôt at Hunghom, the erection of new slaughter houses and depôts was begun at Ma Tau Kok. Provision is made in the new establishments for considerable development beyond present requirements. The works of reconstruction of gullies and extension of nullah training were continued, \$10,000 being spent on the former and over \$23,500 on the latter. A large tank for flushing a portion of the sewerage system of the city was constructed at the junction of Water Street and Queen's Road West; the rifle ranges for the use of the Volunteer Reserve Association at the Peak and King's Park, Kowloon, were extended; a new service reservoir at West Point for supplying the high levels of the city was begun; a new cable reserve was established at North Point and the cables were transferred to it; an obelisk in memory of the French sailors lost in the typhoon of the 18th September, 1906, was erected; and the construction of a retaining wall behind Inland Lot 1,523 to obviate the risk of landslips which threatened to endanger the conduit conveying the water from Tytam to the city was completed.

The Mee Lun Lane Improvement Scheme was completed. Another section of Robinson Road, Kowloon, extending from Market Street to Waterloo Road was undertaken and the removal of the hill north of Yaumati Theatre was continued, the material being used for private reclamation work north of the Naval Coaling Depôt. The extensions of Conduit Road in easterly and westerly directions and of the road past Kowloon City mentioned last year were completed, and a further section of the latter road extending to its junction with the Chiu Lan Chu Road was undertaken. A new path, connecting Barker Road with May Road, as the extension of Conduit Road in an Easterly direction has been designated, was completed.

The extension and reconstruction of the Albany Filter Beds was continued, fair progress being made with the work.

The total amount expended on public works extraordinary, exclusive of advance accounts and deposits not available, was \$784,320 and on works annually recurrent, \$538,041. By the transfer of the item "typhoon and rainstorm damage" from the former head to the latter, the first-mentioned sum has been diminished by \$106,659 whilst the last-mentioned has been correspondingly increased.

Good progress was made on the British section of the Hong Kong-Canton Railway the cost of which is being defrayed by a Loan.

During the year 1907 the re-alignment consequent on the detailed survey by the construction engineers was completed and work commenced over the whole length. The reclamation for a site for Kowloon station yard was started in June. The actual heading driving in Beacon Hill Tunnel may be said to have started on January 1st, 1907. During the year two thousand one hundred feet of heading was driven from both ends and from the shafts sunk at both the north and south sides and four hundred and sixty-five feet of tunnel fully lined. About two-thirds of the compressor plant was in working order, the headings not being far enough advanced to necessitate special ventilating plant. There was difficulty experienced at first in obtaining sufficient labour for work underground but towards the end of the year on the rates being raised slightly a large number of skilled mining coolies returned from South Africa flocked to the work.

Bridge building progressed steadily all through the year as well as earthwork and the minor tunnels, there being no very great difficulties to contend with except in one of the latter. A temporary metre gauge line was laid from the sea front at Lokloha to the north face, the shaft (278 feet) was completed, and a considerable number of houses for staff erected. The systematic issue of quinine to all rail employes resulted in a diminution of malarial fever.

The expenditure on the work during the year amounted to \$2,314,915.

VI.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) HOSPITALS.

Government hospitals consist of the civil hospital, to which is attached an isolated maternity hospital, the Victoria hospital for women and children, the Kennedy Town infectious diseases hospital, and the hulk "*Hygeia*" used mainly for the treatment of small-pox.

The civil hospital contains 150 beds in 19 wards. 2,711 in-patients and 17,302 out-patients were treated during the year 1907. 243 cases of malarial fever were admitted as against 239 in 1906 and 267 in 1905. The maternity hospital contains 6 beds for Europeans and 4 for Asiatics. 87 confinements occurred during the year. The Victoria hospital at the Peak contains 41 beds. During 1907, 211 patients were under treatment. Kennedy Town hospital contains 26 beds. In 1907, 63 cases were treated, of which 16 were plague. On the "*Hygeia*" 167 cases were treated, of which 96 were small-pox.

(B.) LUNATIC ASYLUM.

The asylum is under the direction of the superintendent of the civil hospital. European and Chinese patients are separate, the European portion containing 8 beds in separate wards and the Chinese portion 16 beds. 222 patients of all races were treated during 1907, and there were 13 deaths.

(C.) THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

This hospital, opened in 1872, is mainly supported by the voluntary subscriptions of Chinese, but receives an annual grant of \$8,000 from the Government. Only Chinese are treated in this institution which takes the place of a poor-house and hospital for Chinese sick and destitute. Various other services not appertaining to a hospital are performed by the Institution, such as the free burial of the poor, the repatriation of destitutes, and the organisation of charitable relief in emergencies. Chinese as well as European methods of treatment are employed in accordance with the wishes expressed by the patients or their friends. About half the number are now treated by Western methods and the number is steadily increasing. The hospital is managed by a committee of Chinese gentlemen annually elected, their appointment being submitted to the Governor for confirmation; is under the direct charge of a Chinese Resident Surgeon, paid by the Government; and is under the supervision of a Visiting Physician who is a member of the Medical Department.

VII.—INSTITUTIONS NOT SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT.

Among institutions recognised and encouraged but not to any considerable extent supported by Government may be mentioned the Pó Leung Kuk, the College of Medicine for Chinese, and the City Hall.

The Pó Leung Kuk is an institution, incorporated in 1893, presided over by the Registrar General and an annually-elected Committee of 12 Chinese gentlemen, for the protection of women and children. The inmates of the home receive daily instruction in elementary subjects and are allowed to earn pocket-money by needlework. During 1907, a total of 345 persons were admitted. Of these, 85 were released after enquiry, 5 were released under bond, 131 were placed in charge of their husbands, parents, or relations, 1 was placed in charge of the Japanese Consul, 1 in charge of the French Consul, 22 were sent to charitable institutions in China, 16 were sent to school, convent, or refuge, 12 were adopted, and 38 were married. Thirty-four persons remained in charge of the Society at the end of the year.

The Hong Kong College of Medicine was founded in 1887. The government of the college is vested in the Court, of which the rector of the college, who has always been a Government official, is president. 102 students have been enrolled up to the end of 1907, and of these 33 have become qualified licentiates and have obtained various posts under Government and elsewhere. The institution is of great value in spreading a knowledge of Western medical science among the Chinese; and in addition to the employment of certain of the licentiates in the public service and in the Chinese Dispensaries the senior students have frequently been made use of for various purposes during epidemics. A Government grant-in-aid of \$2,500 is made to the college, to be used as honoraria to the lecturers, who are either Government officials or medical practitioners in local practice. Steps are at present being taken for the provision of adequate buildings for the purposes of the College, which has hitherto carried on its work in various lecture-rooms and laboratories placed at its disposal by hospitals and other institutions in different parts of the City.

The City Hall receives an annual grant of \$1,200 from Government. It contains a reference and circulating library and museum.

VIII.—CRIMINAL AND POLICE.

The total of all cases reported to the Police was 11,540, being an increase of 396 or 3·55 per cent. as compared with 1906. In the division of these cases into serious and minor offences there is a decrease in the former as compared with the previous year of 27 cases or ·81 per cent.

The number of serious offences reported was 297 below the average of the quinquennial period commencing with the year 1903.

The number of minor offences reported shows an increase of 423 as compared with 1906.

The number of minor offences reported was 385 above the average of the quinquennial period.

The total number of persons committed to Victoria Gaol was 5,877, as compared with 5,799 in 1906, but of these only 2,460 were committed for criminal offences, against 2,575 in 1906. Of committals for non-criminal offences there were 84 less under the Prepared Opium Ordinance and 44 less for infringement of Sanitary By-laws.

The daily average of prisoners confined in the Gaol was 502, the average for 1906 being 518 and the highest previous average being 726 in 1904. The percentage of prisoners to population, according to the daily average of the former and the estimated number of the latter, was ·144, as compared with

161, the average percentage for the last ten years. The prison discipline was satisfactory, the average of punishments per prisoner being 1·50, as compared with 1·21 in 1906 and 1·47 in 1905.

The remunerative labour carried on in the gaol consists of printing, book-binding, washing, carpentry, boot-making, net-making, painting, and white-washing, mat-making, tailoring, oakum-picking, &c., the profit on the work done being \$37,434, as against \$34,495 in 1906.

The total strength of the police force for 1907 was, Europeans 135, Indians 410, Chinese 503, making a total of 1,048, as compared with 1,047 in 1906 exclusive in each case of the five superior officers and a staff of clerks and coolies. These figures include police paid for by the railway, private firms, and other Government departments. Of this force the District Officer and 13 Europeans, 101 Indians, and 45 Chinese were stationed in the New Territories during the year.

The force of District Watchmen, to which the Government contributes \$2,000 per annum, was well supported by the Chinese during the year. These watchmen patrol the streets in the Chinese quarter of the city. They are placed on police beats and are supervised by the European police on section patrol.

IX.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The population of the Colony according to the census taken in 1901 was 283,975, while at the census taken in 1906 it was 301,967 exclusive of the New Territories, New Kowloon, and the army and navy establishments. The estimated population at the middle of the year under review was 414,308, as follows:—

Non-Chinese Civil Community	...	...	...	12,700	
Chinese Population—					
Kong Kong	...	...	...	192,400	
Kowloon	...	...	...	71,950	
Floating Population	...	...	...	43,530	
Mercantile Marine	...	...	...	2,700	
					310,580
Army (average strength)	...	...	...	3,920	
Navy (average strength)	...	...	...	2,157	
					6,077
New Territories (exclusive of Kowloon)	...	...	...	85,011	
Total	...	...	...	414,368	

At the census taken in 1906 the average strength of the navy present in the Colony was 4,698.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

During the year under review considerable progress has been made in rendering existing domestic buildings rat proof as a preventive of plague; 370 ground surfaces of houses have been repaired, and 1,201 buildings have had rat-runs filled up with cement. In addition 44 basements illegally inhabited have been vacated.

New buildings (domestic) to the number of 142 were erected during the year and in these the effect of the present ordinance is seen in the increased amount of open space about the houses, which the law requires. Scavenging lanes which have to be provided in the rear of new houses also increase the open space about them and tend to reduce surface crowding.

During the year there were 198 deaths from plague, compared with 842 in 1906 and 287 in 1905.

There were 1,825 deaths from respiratory diseases amongst the Chinese; 655 of these deaths were due to phthisis, a percentage of 9·6 of the total deaths amongst that community.

Beri-beri caused 562 deaths—a high figure.

The deaths from malaria were 579, as against 448 in 1906 and 287 in 1905, an increase which it is hoped will only be temporary. The average number of deaths from this disease has fallen from 526 in the quinquennium 1898 to 1902 to 383 in the quinquennium 1903-1907. Military returns of admissions to hospital for malaria show a marked reduction in the incidence of this disease, as will be seen from the subjoined table:—

Admissions for Malaria: European Troops.

Year.	Strength.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Ratio per 1,000.
1898	1,569	595	10	379·3
1899	1,643	829	5	504·6
1900	1,484	629	4	423·8
1901	1,673	1,010	4	603·7
1902	1,381	1,523	6	1,102·8
1903	1,220	937	2	768·0
1904	1,426	390	1	273·5
1905	1,370	348	0	254·0
1906	1,525	480	4	314·75
1907	1,461	287	0	196·00

(C.) CLIMATE.

The average monthly temperature throughout the year was 72·2° F., as compared with 71·8° F. in 1906 and 72·0° F. during the ten preceding years. The maximum monthly temperature was attained in July, when it reached 87·1° F., and the

minimum monthly temperature was recorded in February, when it was 55·2° F. The highest recorded temperature during the year was 91·6° F. on the 29th August, and the lowest 45·0° F. on the 31st January.

The total rainfall for the year was 93·54 inches, as compared with an average of 77·96 inches during the past ten years. The wettest month was September, with 19·46 inches, the driest, February, with only 0·16 inch. The greatest amount of rain which fell on any one day was 5·530 inches on the 15th September, while no rain fell on 215 days of the year. The relative humidity of the atmosphere throughout the year was 77 per cent., as compared with an average of 77 per cent. during the past 10 years. The average daily amount of sunshine was 5·2 hours, being 46 per cent. of the possible duration.

X.—POSTAL SERVICE.

The total receipts paid into the Treasury in 1907 by the Postal Department amounted to \$586,375 from which sum \$140,954 was transferred to other heads of General Revenue under which fees and duties are paid in stamps, which are now sold exclusively by the Post Office, leaving the sum of \$445,420 as revenue of the Postal Service. The total expenditure amounted to \$366,452, which being deducted from the revenue of \$445,420 leaves a profit of \$78,968.

A direct exchange of Money Orders with Kiaochau came into force on 1st July.

A new Parcel Post arrangement with Japan came into operation on 1st October.

The Postal Convention of Rome, which was signed on 26th May, 1906, came into operation on 1st October, 1907; the principal changes introduced being the raising of the unit of weight of letters from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. to 1 oz. in the case of letters posted in Hong Kong and Liu Kung Tau and from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. (14·17325 grammes) to 20 grammes at the other Agencies—and the exchange of International Reply Coupons with the principal countries included in the Postal Union.

The Tientsin Agency availed of the opportunity to send direct mails to Europe overland *via* Harbin from 17th October.

XI.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

(A.) REGULAR FORCES.

The following return shows the average number and composition of the forces employed in the Colony during 1907:—

Corps.	Europeans.		Indians.		Chinese.	Totals.
	Officers.	W. O.'s, N. C. O.'s & Men.	Native Officers.	W. O.'s, N. C. O.'s & Men.	N. C. O.'s & Men.	
General Staff (Officers only) ...	5	—	—	—	—	5
Garrison Staff (W. O., N. C. Officers only) ...	—	5	—	—	—	5
Royal Garrison Artillery ...	27	633	—	—	—	660
Royal Engineers ...	12	259	—	—	55	326
Army Service Corps ...	4	28	—	—	—	32
Royal Army Medical Corps ...	8	43	—	—	—	51
A. O. Department and Corps ...	6	30	—	—	—	36
A. P. Department and Corps ...	3	8	—	—	—	11
Hong Kong & Singapore Bn. R.G.A. ...	11	7	7	435	—	460
3rd Middlesex Regiment ...	16	425	—	—	—	441
119th Infantry ...	10	—	15	748	—	773
129th (D.C.O.) Baluchis ...	11	—	14	734	—	759
Indian Subordinate Medical Department.	—	—	1	4	—	5
Total ...	113	1,438	37	1,921	55	3,564

(B.) COLONIAL CONTRIBUTION.

The Colony contributed \$1,214,340.05 (being the statutory contribution of 20 per cent. of the Revenue) towards the cost of the maintenance of the Regular Forces in the Colony including Barrack Service and Defence Works.

(C.) VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The total establishment of the corps is 443 of all ranks. The strength on the 31st December, 1907, was 289, made up as follows:—Staff 7; two Garrison Artillery Companies, 199; one Engineer Company, 45; Troop 38.

The members of the Corps are now all armed with the new M.L.E. short rifle and the latest pattern equipment.

The period for the annual Camp of Instruction was again 16 days; it was held in October, 1907, and was well attended.

The Mounted Troop Camp was held at Fan Ling in the New Territories. The Camp took place during the Christmas holidays. Much useful work was done.

The Hong Kong Volunteer Reserve Association numbered two hundred and twenty-eight members at the close of the year, a decrease of 23 members as compared with 1906.

Members of this Association, who must be over 35 years of age, are afforded opportunity to make themselves proficient in rifle shooting, and undertake to enrol themselves under the Volunteer Ordinance in the event of hostilities.

A small Cadet Corps was commenced in May, 1906, with boys from the Victoria British School; there are now 18 in the school and 4 others. The Cadets are instructed in squad drill and semaphore signalling. They attended Camp, and many are already very efficient signallers.

The new headquarter building was opened in December, 1906, and is already very popular. A well equipped gymnasium has been installed, and classes are held regularly. The cost of the building has been entirely defrayed and no debt remains.

The expenditure on the Volunteers, which is entirely borne by the Colony, was \$45,253, compared with \$47,351 in 1906.

XII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

The year was characterised by continued severe depression in trade.

The Colony appears to have recovered from the over-speculation indulged in in anticipation of the conclusion of the war between Russia and Japan, and her trade has resumed a healthier condition, though the volume is still restricted. The large stocks accumulated during the speculative period have taken a long time to work off, and fresh imports have been small, because for various reasons, one of which was caution induced by previous over-speculation, China has imported a smaller quantity of merchandise.

The assessment made in July for the year 1907-8 showed that the rateable value for the whole Colony has decreased by 2·52 per cent. In the Hill District, Shauiwan, the Hong Kong villages, and in Kowloon except in the important District of Yaumati, the assessment showed an increase ranging from 1·07 per cent. to 11·76 per cent. But in the City of Victoria a decrease of 3·42 per cent. and in Yaumati a decrease of 5·65 per cent. were shown. In New Kowloon a remarkable increase from a rateable value of \$38,930 to one of \$61,835, or an increase of 58·83 per cent., was shown.

In the New Territories continued progress has been observable in the making of several roads by the private enterprise of villagers, and by the erection of new houses. The Crown Rent (Land Tax) was paid with an alacrity that was almost inconvenient; and there was a marked decrease in crime in spite of the large numbers of coolies employed on the Railway Works.

The loss and inconvenience caused by the depreciation of the

subsidiary currency by the over-issue of small coins by the Mint in Canton continued.

The Hong Kong Government adopted the expedient of withdrawing from circulation all its subsidiary coin received as revenue, and succeeded in inducing the authorities at Canton to temporarily suspend the coining of small coins at the Mint at Canton. A Committee was appointed to consider the causes of the depreciation of the subsidiary coinage of the Colony and to advise what steps could be taken to rehabilitate it. As a result of the enquiry the Government addressed strong representations through the proper channels to the Chinese authorities both at Peking and Canton urging the suspension of the coinage of small coins at the Canton Mint until the coins had again reached par. No definite reply had been received to these representations at the close of the year.

The Committee appointed in 1906 to collect funds and administer relief to the sufferers by the disastrous typhoon of 18th September, 1906, completed their labours early in the year and reported that they had collected \$279,903, all but \$11,000 of which was contributed by residents in the Colony and by firms doing business with it. Of this sum \$198,002 were spent in replacing or repairing 1,601 cargo boats, junks, and other craft lost or damaged, while \$46,668 were spent on the relief of destitutes (including 205 women and children) and the recovery and burial of dead. The balance of \$33,768 has been placed in the custody of the Government as a fund for relief in similar circumstances. Thirty thousand dollars were also contributed by the Chinese Government to the Tung Wa Hospital and have been set apart by that institution to serve as a similar fund. A further sum of \$106,659 was spent during the year out of Revenue in repairs to Government Works and Buildings caused by the typhoon of 18th September, 1906. In September a very heavy rain-storm caused considerable damage to the Kowloon catchwater and to other Government Works.

The Commission which had been appointed in the previous year to enquire into the administration of the sanitary laws and the existence of corruption in the Sanitary Department issued their report in April. The Commissioners found that widespread corruption existed among the subordinate Sanitary Staff, and on the evidence furnished by the Commissioners several Sanitary Inspectors were tried by the Executive Council, suspended, and dismissed. Much of the dissatisfaction with the administration of the Public Health Ordinance was removed by the amendment of a section dealing with open spaces in the rear of existing houses, and by a free use of the power of exemption from the provisions of the law relating to cubicles in Chinese tenement houses. A Committee was appointed to enquire into this subject and their recommendations with several suggestions made by the Commissioners and others are being embodied in amendments of the Public Health Ordinance. In the result it is anticipated that, thanks

to the ungrudging labours of the Commissioners, the Sanitary Department will in future be more honestly served while many improvements will be effected in the Sanitary Law and the method of its application.

In consequence of the high rate of exchange, which reached more than 2s. 3d. to the dollar, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the concurrence of unofficial members of the Legislative Council, allowed the sterling salaries of Civil Servants to be paid at the rate of 2s. to the dollar when the rate of exchange is above that figure and at the rate of the day when it is below it.

During the year the claim for compensation on account of the lives lost in the piracy of the S.S. *Sianam*, referred to in the Report of last year, was settled; and the Provincial authorities have now adopted measures which it is hoped will be effective in the suppression of piracy in the Delta and on the West River.

Mr. F. Grove, Chief Resident Engineer, and a considerable staff were at work on the Chinese section of the Hong Kong-Canton Railway during the year. The survey was completed and steps were taken for beginning construction early in the current year.

His Excellency Cheng Yan-tsun succeeded His Excellency Chau Fuk as Governor-General of the Two Kwang Provinces.

Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz acted as Attorney-General until the arrival of Mr. W. Rees Davies in July.

Mr. E. Osborne was appointed a member of the Legislative Council *vice* Mr. G. Stewart who left the Colony, and Mr. H. Keswick took the place of Mr. W. J. Gresson absent on leave.

H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught accompanied by H. R. H. the Duchess of Connaught and the princess Patricia of Connaught visited the Colony early in the year. His Royal Highness unveiled statues of His Majesty the King-Emperor and of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales which had been presented to the Colony by Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G. and Mr. J. J. Bell-Irving respectively.

Their Royal Highnesses attended an entertainment given in their honour by the Chinese community at the Ko Shing Theatre.

Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., Governor, left the Colony on the 20th April to take up the governorship of Natal, and the Colonial Secretary (Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G.) administered the Government until my arrival on the 29th July, 1907.

I have, &c.,

F. D. LUGARD,

Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Crewe,

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial sessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
539	Leeward Islands	1906-1907
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-190
543	Bahamas... ..	"
544	Barbados... ..	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia... ..	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar... ..	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda... ..	"
569	Wei-hai-wei	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
45	East Africa Protectorate	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
47	Do. do.	Do. do. 1905-6.
48	Nyasaland Protectorate	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies	Cultivation of Cotton.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 584.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF
THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE,
1906 AND 1907.

(For Report for 1905, *see* [Cd. 3116] 1906.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1908.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

And to be purchased, either directly or through any Bookseller, from
WYMAN AND SONS, LTD., FETTER LANE, E.C., and
32, ABINGDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.; or
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or
E. PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN

1908.

[Cd. 3729-48.] *Price 4d.*

No. 584.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE, 1906 AND 1907.

(For Report for 1905, *see* [Cd. 3116] of 1906.)

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE IMPERIAL
INSTITUTE, IN 1906 AND 1907. BY PROFESSOR
WYNDHAM R. DUNSTAN, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., *Director*.

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I.—PREFATORY STATEMENT.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE OF THE UNITED
KINGDOM, THE COLONIES, AND INDIA.

TRUSTEES.

The First Commissioner of His Majesty's Treasury,
The Secretary of State for the Colonies.
The Secretary of State for India,
The President of the Board of Trade.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(Appointed under the provisions of the Imperial Institute Transfer Act, 1902.)

The Right Hon. Lord James of Hereford, G.C.V.O.
(Chairman).

Sir F. Hopwood, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.

Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G.

The Right Hon. Lord Allerton.

Sir H. Llewellyn Smith, K.C.B.

The Right Hon. Sir C. Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G.

Colonel Sir D. Barr, K.C.S.I.

Sir T. W. Holderness, K.C.S.I.

Sir Thomas Elliott, K.C.B.

Colonel Duncan G. Pitcher.

The Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal,
G.C.M.G.

Captain Muirhead Collins, C.M.G.

The Hon. W. Pember Reeves.

The Hon. Sir W. Arbuckle, K.C.M.G.

Sir C. P. Lucas, K.C.M.G., C.B.

(One vacancy to be filled.)

MANAGING COMMITTEE.

The Right Hon. Sir C. Clementi Smith, G.C.M.G.
(nominated by the Colonial Office).

Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G. (nominated by the Board
of Trade).

Colonel Duncan G. Pitcher (nominated by the India Office).

DIRECTOR.

Professor Wyndham R. Dunstan, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.

The Imperial Institute was erected at South Kensington as the National Memorial of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, by whom it was opened in May, 1893.

The principal object of the Institute is to promote the utilisation of the commercial and industrial resources of the Empire by arranging comprehensive exhibitions of natural products, especially of India and the Colonies, and providing for their investigation and for the collection and dissemination of scientific, technical, and commercial information relating to them.

The work of the Imperial Institute is at present carried on under four principal divisions: (1) The Colonial and

Indian collections, consisting mainly of raw materials and primary manufactures displayed in the public exhibition galleries, and including a central stand for receiving enquiries and distributing publications; (2) the Scientific and Technical Department, including a special staff and research laboratories occupying the second floor of the building; (3) the Reference Library, containing a large collection of works of reference relating to India and the Colonies, together with the principal periodicals and newspapers; (4) the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," a quarterly publication including a record of the work of the Imperial Institute in its various branches, as well as special articles on subjects connected with the industrial utilisation of mineral and vegetable products.

Until the end of 1902 the Imperial Institute was managed by a Governing Body, of which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales (now His Majesty the King) was President, and an Executive Council, including representatives of the Indian Empire and of all the British Colonies and Dependencies. In 1900 the building became the property of His Majesty's Government, by whom the western portion and galleries were leased to the Governing Body of the Imperial Institute, the greater part of the eastern and central portions being assigned for occupation by the University of London. In July, 1902, an Act of Parliament was passed transferring the management of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade, assisted by an Advisory Committee, including representatives of India and the Colonies, as well as of the India and Colonial Offices, the Board of Agriculture, and the Board of Trade. This Act took effect on January 1, 1903.

On October 1, 1907, in virtue of an arrangement made with the Board of Trade and with the approval of the Secretary of State for India, the management of the Imperial Institute was transferred to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, subject to the responsibility of the Board of Trade under the Act of 1902. A Committee of Management of three members, one nominated by each of the three Government Departments chiefly concerned, has been appointed.

The first Director of the Imperial Institute was Sir Frederick Augustus Abel, Bart., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., F.R.S., who held the office until his death in the autumn of 1902. The present Director is Professor Wyndham Dunstan, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S., who was appointed in 1903.

The staff of the Imperial Institute includes officers with special qualifications in the sciences of chemistry, botany, geology, mineralogy, and in certain branches of technology, in their relation to agriculture and to the commercial utilisation of economic products.

The following are the principal departments of the Institute:—

Colonial and Indian Collections.—The collections of economic products, &c., illustrative of the general and commercial resources of India and the Colonies, are arranged, together with other exhibits, on a geographical system in the public galleries of the Imperial Institute, which are open free to the public daily, except on Sundays, Good Friday, and Christmas Day, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in summer, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in winter.

Special arrangements are made for the conduct of schools and institutions desirous of visiting the Indian and Colonial collections for educational purposes.

A stand has been opened in the centre of the main gallery to facilitate the supply of general information and the distribution of literature. Pamphlets, circulars, handbooks, &c., containing information relating to the commerce, agriculture, mining, and other industries of the principal British Colonies, and also to emigration, are available for gratuitous distribution or for sale. The publications of the Emigrants' Information Office, established by the Colonial Office, may also be obtained. The principal Indian and Colonial newspapers may be seen on application. An officer of the Institute is in attendance at this stand, which is in telephonic communication with the departments in the main building.

The Scientific and Technical Department.—The research laboratories of this department, which occupy the second floor of the Imperial Institute, were established in order to provide for the investigation of new or little-known natural products from India and the Colonies, and of known products from new sources, with a view to their utilisation in commerce, and also to provide trustworthy scientific and technical advice on matters connected with the agriculture, trade, and industries of India and the Colonies.

The work of this department is chiefly initiated by the Government of India and the Home and Colonial Governments. Arrangements have been also made by the Foreign Office, whereby British representatives abroad may transmit to the department for investigation such natural products of the countries in which they are appointed to reside as are likely to be of interest to British manufacturers and merchants.

Materials are first investigated in the research laboratories of the department, and are afterwards submitted to further technical trials by manufacturers, and other experts, and finally are commercially valued.

Except under special circumstances investigations are not undertaken for private individuals.

A Reference Sample Room is maintained in this department, in which are arranged samples of the principal materials

which have been investigated and commercially valued during recent years, and as to which full information is available.

The Scientific and Technical Department is now working in co-operation with the Agricultural and Mines Departments in the Colonies, whose operations it supplements by undertaking such investigations and inquiries as are of a special scientific and technical character connected with agricultural or mineral development, as well as enquiries relating to the composition and commercial value of products (vegetable and mineral) which can be more efficiently conducted at home in communication with merchants and manufacturers, with a view to the local utilisation of these products or to their export.

A very large number of reports on these subjects have been made to the Governments of India and the Colonies, a first instalment of which has been printed in a volume of "Technical Reports and Scientific Papers," published in 1903, whilst a selection of the later reports has been printed in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute."

Mineral surveys, under the supervision of the Director of the Imperial Institute, and conducted by surveyors selected by him, are in progress in Ceylon, Northern Nigeria, Southern Nigeria, and Nyasaland, and preliminary arrangements of a similar nature have been made in connection with British East Africa and with the Anglo-Congolese Boundary Commission in Uganda. All minerals found are forwarded to the Imperial Institute, where they are examined and, in all cases in which they are likely to be of commercial importance, their composition and commercial value are ascertained. Reports by the Director on the results of the mineral exploration in Ceylon, Northern Nigeria and Southern Nigeria have been printed in the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports.

In connection with the operations of the Agricultural Departments in West Africa, and with a view to correlating their work and that of the Imperial Institute, a Superintendent of Agriculture for British West Africa has been appointed, who visits West Africa each year, and on his return has his headquarters at the Imperial Institute.

Library and Reading-Rooms.—The library and reading-rooms of the Imperial Institute contain a large collection of Indian and Colonial works of reference, and are regularly supplied with the more important official publications, and with many of the principal newspapers and periodicals of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies.

The library and reading-rooms are on the principal floor, and admittance to them is obtained through the entrance at the west (Queen's Gate) end of the building. These rooms are available for the use of Life Fellows of the Imperial Institute, and of other persons properly introduced. Books

and newspapers may be consulted for special purposes by permission.

Colonial Conference Rooms.—Three large rooms, specially decorated and furnished, are reserved on the principal floor for use by representatives of the Colonies for meetings and receptions.

Cowasjee Jehanghier Hall.—The Bhowmagree corridor and rooms in connection with this hall are in the occupation of the Indian Section of the Imperial Institute, whilst the hall is available for lectures, meetings, &c.

The "*Bulletin of the Imperial Institute*" is published quarterly, price one shilling (annual subscription 4s. 8d., including postage), and may be purchased at the Imperial Institute or from Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, London, E.C., or from agents in India and the Colonies. The "*Bulletin*" contains records of the principal investigations conducted for India and the Colonies at the Imperial Institute, and special articles chiefly relating to progress in tropical agriculture and the industrial utilisation of raw materials (vegetable and mineral).

The following societies have their headquarters at the Imperial Institute:—

British Women's Emigration Association.—The British Women's Emigration Association has been assigned an office on the first floor, which is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and advice and information respecting emigration and prospects for women in the Colonies may be obtained there free of charge. This Association works in co-operation with the Emigrants' Information Office in Westminster.

Colonial Nursing Association.—This Association has an office on the first floor of the Imperial Institute. Its principal object is the selection of trained hospital and private nurses for service in the Crown Colonies and other British Dependencies.

African Society.—This Society, which is concerned with the discussion and publication of all matters connected with British African Possessions, has been assigned an office on the mezzanine floor, and holds meetings at the Imperial Institute for the discussion of African questions. The "*Journal of the African Society*" is published quarterly.

II.—GENERAL.

The present report deals with the work which has been carried out in each division of the Imperial Institute during the years 1906 and 1907, supplementing the report for 1905 (Cd. 3116 of 1906). It will be seen that the considerable increase in the work of the Imperial Institute recorded in the last report has continued.

In connection with the transfer of the management of the Institute to the Colonial Office in 1907 new arrangements were made by Lord Elgin, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the participation of the Colonies in the work of the Imperial Institute, with the result that new collections have been added to the Exhibition Galleries and numerous additional requests for information and investigations have been made to the Scientific and Technical Department. Owing to the large increase in work in all departments the space in the Imperial Institute building which was retained under the arrangement made by the Government in 1900 is no longer adequate, and some additional accommodation has now been provided by a temporary building in the south-west quadrangle which will shortly be supplemented in other ways. It is satisfactory to notice that without any special advertisement and in spite of the inconspicuous entrances, commented upon in the body of this report, the number of visitors to the Exhibition Galleries has very considerably increased, and that the majority of these visitors were genuine enquirers, including a number of schools and educational institutions, many of which made special arrangements for the exhibits illustrating the resources of the British Possessions to be explained in detail. Assistance in this and other ways has been given to the Victoria League and to other bodies which are engaged in Imperial educational work.

The work accomplished by the Scientific and Technical Department for the Colonies and India is recorded in considerable detail in the following pages. It will be seen that this has included investigations in connection with the production and utilisation of every variety of raw material, mineral and vegetable, whilst special information has been supplied on these and similar subjects to manufacturers and others, and this information, in cases in which it seemed desirable, has been made the basis of special articles in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," which now has a wide circulation both in British Possessions and abroad. A number of the more important reports on investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department have also been printed in the "Bulletin," whilst a large number of papers communicating the results of scientific investigations have been published by the Royal Society and other scientific societies.

The large amount of correspondence, &c., entailed by the work of the several sections of the Imperial Institute has been for the most part conducted in the general office by the clerical staff, which has found it difficult to cope with the great increase in this work, and in the collateral work of registration, filing, indexing, &c., which has occurred during the period under review. In addition to minor correspondence which it is convenient to conduct through the department

concerned, and to that of the Indian Section, which has been carried on by a separate staff, the work of the general office included the despatch during 1906 of 7,033 letters and reports, whilst 4,426 letters were received. Of the documents despatched, 282 were detailed reports on special investigations conducted by the Scientific and Technical Department. During 1907, 7,392 documents were despatched, of which 398 were reports on investigations, whilst 4,704 letters were received. The increase in correspondence which occurred during the two years reflects the general increase of the work of the Institute which has taken place in all sections, especially in that of the Scientific and Technical Department.

III.—STAFF.

During the years 1906 and 1907 the principal members of the staff were as follows:—

Director of the Imperial Institute:—

Wyndham R. Dunstan, M.A., LL.D., F.R.S.

Secretary to the Director:—

J. H. Preston, M.A. (Oxon.).

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT.

Principal Assistant:—

T. A. Henry, D.Sc. (Lond.), F.C.S.

Senior Assistants:—

H. Brown.

E. Goulding, D.Sc. (Lond.), F.C.S.

G. S. Blake, B.Sc. (Lond.), A.R.S.M., F.C.S.

T. Crook, A.R.C.Sc.I., F.G.S.

Special Assistants:—

H. H. Robinson, M.A. (Oxon.), F.C.S.

J. W. Evans, D.Sc. (Lond.), F.G.S.

Assistants:—

A. E. Andrews (Salters' Research Fellow).

J. W. G. Brooker, A.I.C. (until July, 1906).

S. J. Johnstone.

R. G. Pelly, A.I.C.

S. M. J. Auld, Ph.D. (Würzburg), A.I.C.

F. W. Barwick.

D. A. Bowack.

S. S. Pickles, M.Sc. (Vict.).

T. C. Thomas (until December, 1906).

R. W. Blair, A.R.C.Sc.I. (until August, 1906).

H. E. Watt, M.Sc. (Dunelm).

W. P. Hayworth, A.I.C.

A. Jordan, M.Sc. (Leeds).

W. R. S. Ladell, A.I.C.

The special officers of the Mineral Surveys of Ceylon, Southern Nigeria, Northern Nigeria, and Nyasaland, now in progress under the supervision of the Director of the Imperial Institute, and of the preliminary surveys which are being undertaken in British East Africa and Uganda, were:—

Ceylon:—

A. K. Coomaraswamy, D.Sc. (Lond.), (until December, 1906).

J. Parsons, B.Sc. (Lond.), F.G.S.

J. A. Daniel, B.A. (Cantab.).

Southern Nigeria:—

J. Parkinson, B.A., B.Sc. (Cantab.), (until September, 1906).

L. H. L. Huddart, M.A. (Cantab.), A.R.S.M. (until June, 1906).

A. E. Kitson, B.A. (Melbourne), F.G.S.

I. A. Stigand, B.A. (Cantab.), A.R.S.M. (until August, 1907)

S. M. Owen, A.R.S.M.

Northern Nigeria:—

J. D. Falconer, M.A., D.Sc. (Edin.), F.G.S.

D. R. Home (until September, 1906).

A. Longbottom, B.A. (Cantab.).

Nyasaland:—

A. R. Andrew, B.Sc. (N.Z.), F.G.S.

T. E. G. Bailey, B.A. (Cantab.).

Uganda:—

J. E. Coates, B.A. (Cantab.), (attached to the Anglo-Congolese Survey Commission).

British East Africa:—

K. H. B. Joll.

COLONIAL AND INDIAN COLLECTIONS.

Superintendent of Colonial Collections:—

W. G. Freeman, B.Sc. (Lond.), F.L.S.

Assistant Superintendents:—

C. H. Nicholls, B.A. (Oxon.), F.L.S.

S. E. Chandler, D.Sc. (Lond.), F.L.S.

E. H. Wilson (until November, 1906).

H. Spooner.

Superintendent of Indian Section:—

C. E. Jones, B.Sc. (Lond.), F.L.S.

IV.—EXHIBITION GALLERIES.

During the period under review considerable progress has been made in re-organizing these collections on a definite plan, a large work which was commenced in 1903. The aim

has been, whilst preserving the original geographical scheme of arrangement preferred by India and the Colonies, to render the collection or "court" of each country an object lesson of its present economic condition; the raw materials, mineral and vegetable, exported by the country or used in its industries or manufactures furnishing the nucleus of each collection. Maps, statistical diagrams and photographs are freely employed as aids to a clear understanding of the present condition and characteristics of each British Possession, whilst by means of specially prepared descriptive labels the chief facts of importance connected with each exhibit are concisely summarised.

The descriptive labels summarising the nature, production, and uses of materials, on the preparation of which special care has been bestowed, have attracted the attention of a number of museums, both in this country and abroad. Specimens of the labels have been supplied at the request of Colonial museums in Germany, France and Belgium, whilst the West Indian Exhibition Committee has asked permission to reprint several of the labels, and has recommended the adoption of similar labels in future in all exhibitions of West Indian products. The collections are thus made to serve several purposes. To the ordinary visitor to the public galleries they convey an attractive and instructive illustration of the leading characteristics of the condition and resources of each British Possession; they serve important educational purposes, especially in connection with the teaching of the geography of the British Empire, and are now visited by a number of schools and educational institutions; whilst they also serve as a guide to the intending emigrant or settler, and also to the manufacturer as an index of the chief resources of each country, and as the starting point of technical inquiries and laboratory investigations, which are dealt with by the expert staff of the Institute, as well as a means of displaying and illustrating the results of these investigations.

Attached to these collections is a special technical staff, consisting of the superintendent and three assistant superintendents. This staff is charged with the general work connected with the arrangement and care of the collections, and it assists, in co-operation with the staff of the Scientific and Technical Department, in answering inquiries and supplying information required by visitors and correspondents. The Indian collection has occupied a distinct position, under the charge of a special superintendent, who, whilst subject to the Director and the general regulations of the Institute, acted as Secretary to the Indian Committee, through which the Indian Section was administered. Besides the technical staff there are attendants who are on duty in the galleries when they are open to the public, in addition to those employed in the general duties of care and maintenance.

The following British Colonies and Dependencies are represented by collections in the public galleries:—

Canada, Newfoundland; Jamaica, Turks Islands, British Honduras, British Guiana, Bahama Islands, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Windward Islands, Leeward Islands, Bermuda Islands; Falkland Islands; Australia: New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, South Australia, Western Australia, New Zealand; Fiji; Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Transvaal, Orange River Colony, Rhodesia, Nyasaland; St. Helena; Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, Northern Nigeria, Southern Nigeria; British East Africa, Zanzibar and Pemba; Uganda; Somaliland; the Anglo-Egyptian Soudan; Malta; Cyprus, Ceylon, Hong Kong; Mauritius; Seychelles; Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States; and India.

During the period the general improvement of the public galleries was continued. Redecoration of the galleries was carried out on an extensive scale, necessitating the dismantling and subsequent re-arrangement of nearly all the Colonial Courts, which through their re-organization and the additions that were made now give a much more adequate representation of the economic resources and present condition of the Colonies and Protectorates. New exhibits have been received from the West and East African Colonies and Protectorates, Zanzibar, Hong Kong, Ceylon, the West Indies, the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, the Falkland Islands, New South Wales and New Zealand, whilst new collections have been received from the Cape, Natal, and for the new courts for the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal. A particularly fine collection illustrating the resources of the Dominion of Canada has been arranged in the Canadian Section under the auspices of the Canadian Government. In connection with the re-arrangement of the collections there has been included a number of Royal presents from the Colonies, lent by His Majesty the King and Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their inclusion has greatly added to the general interest and attractiveness of the public galleries.

In the arrangement of the British East Africa Court great assistance was rendered by Mr. H. Powell, Assistant to the Director of Agriculture of the Protectorate, who spent three weeks at the Imperial Institute for the purpose. Mr. H. G. Smith, F.C.S., the Assistant Curator of the Sydney Technological Museum, also afforded help in connection with the arrangement of additional specimens of eucalyptus oils in the New South Wales Court. In the West African Section great assistance was rendered by Mr. W. R. Elliott, late Forestry Officer in Northern Nigeria, who was temporarily attached to the collections staff.

The following is a summary of the work which has been carried out in the principal sections of the exhibition galleries during 1906 and 1907:—

India.—Important groups of exhibits have been re-arranged and added to, new labels provided, as well as maps and statistical tables. The entire section is in process of re-arrangement.

Canada.—An entirely new collection has been installed by the Canadian Government.

Ceylon.—New exhibits have been received, including a comprehensive exhibit illustrating the pearl industry, a series of photographs illustrating rubber cultivation and preparation, and a map showing rubber areas. Every industry of the first rank in Ceylon is now well represented in the court.

Australia.—Maps and statistical tables have been added to certain of the Australian courts. Descriptive labels have been prepared, and many of the collections re-arranged and photographs added.

West Indies.—A large number of new exhibits have been added.

Transvaal and Orange River Colonies.—Courts containing illustrations of the resources of these Colonies have been arranged.

Rhodesia.—New exhibits of the resources of Rhodesia have been provided by the British South Africa Company.

Natal.—Many new exhibits have been supplied by the Government of the Colony.

East and West Africa.—Additional exhibits sent from the individual Colonies and Protectorates, and several maps have been included in these collections. A model of a gold dredger was presented by the African Gold Dredging and Mining Concessions, Limited. The principal resources of each of the Colonies and Protectorates of East and West Africa are now shown.

Sudan.—A collection representing the resources of the Sudan is being provided.

Important additions, as well as re-arrangement and relabelling, have been also made in courts belonging to Hong Kong, the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Cape Colony, Falkland Islands, and Zanzibar.

A collection of British minerals, received from the Home Office, was arranged in the galleries.

Descriptive catalogues of the collections of New Zealand, East Africa, Nyasaland, Northern Nigeria, Gambia, and Sierra Leone have been prepared and printed in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," separate copies being available for distribution. Catalogues of other collections are in course of preparation.

The number of visitors to the collections in 1906 was 80,020, and in 1907 123,016, which is the highest number recorded since

1903. These included many schools, for whom special arrangements were made by which members of the staff accompanied each party and afforded additional information. In the same way the services of certain members of the staff have been available on one afternoon in each week during the year to conduct visitors and to give explanations. A visit was paid by members of the Iron and Steel Institute and the American Institute of Mining Engineers on the occasion of their joint meeting in London in July, 1906.

When completely re-organized these collections will, it is hoped, attract visitors in increasing numbers on a scale corresponding with those who now resort to the neighbouring Victoria and Albert Museum and the Natural History Museum. Some steps are, however, still needed to make the public collections more widely known, and among these may be mentioned the provision of better and more conspicuous public entrances.

The central stand, which serves as a general enquiry office in the public galleries and a means of regulating the distribution of literature relating to India and the Colonies, has proved to be a useful feature. 8,759 publications were distributed to enquirers during the year 1906, and 14,866 during 1907. 193 special enquiries, chiefly relating to emigration, settlement, planting, climate, agriculture, and forestry, were dealt with by the expert staff in 1906, and 217 in 1907.

Owing to the interest created by the Cotton Exhibition, which was held during the summer of 1905 in the North Gallery, and the numerous requests for information which have been since received, some of the more important cotton exhibits have been placed permanently on view in the North Gallery and additions have been made during 1906 and 1907. A very comprehensive collection of British-grown cottons is now on view.

The extension of the colonial collections in order to include the new exhibits which have been received has necessitated the installation of several courts in the North Gallery, which was formerly reserved for temporary exhibitions and other uses. Half the North Gallery is now occupied in this way by the permanent collections of the Colonies. The remaining portion is still reserved for special exhibitions, &c. Among these temporary exhibitions may be mentioned that of students' work in technology and handicraft held under the auspices of the Technological Department of the City and Guilds of London Institute, including specimens of the work done in several technical schools in the Colonies which had been sent to London for examination.

Loan collections of specimens of economic products have been lent from the galleries to several exhibitions, notably the Liverpool Colonial Products Exhibition, the South African Products Exhibition held in London, the Health,

Food, and Hygiene Exhibition at the Crystal Palace, and the exhibitions held by the Royal Horticultural Society, whilst a number of schools and educational institutions have been supplied with small collections illustrative of the resources of the British Colonies for use in connection with the teaching of geography.

Several of the Crown Colonies find it convenient to make the Imperial Institute a centre from which special exhibits of their resources may be arranged by the technical staff and sent to any exhibition held in this country in which these Colonies may desire to participate. There is a pressing need for further storage accommodation in connection with the Exhibition galleries, the existing accommodation being now entirely inadequate.

V.—THE LIBRARY.

Besides its constant use by members of the staff, the Library has been used during the year by Life Fellows of the Institute as well as by enquirers for special information.

The facilities afforded by the Library and rooms of the Imperial Institute have been utilized during the year by a number of officers of the Colonies and Protectorates at home on leave, who have also been given every facility for pursuing enquiries in connection with the Colonial collections and the work of the Scientific and Technical Department.

VI.—“BULLETIN OF THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE” AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS.

The “Bulletin” has already a large and increasing circulation in Great Britain, the British Colonies, and also in foreign countries. In addition to exchanges for other publications, over 3,000 copies were sold during 1907, and the subscribers include numerous manufacturing and commercial firms in this country interested in the utilization of raw materials.

The following are the titles of the reports and special articles which appeared in the four numbers of the “Bulletin” for 1906:—

Reports on Investigations.

Timbers from the British East Africa Protectorate.
 "Dika Nuts" from Southern Nigeria.
 Cotton from British North Borneo.
 Agave and Furcræa Fibres from Madras.
 Rubbers from Sierra Leone.
 Tanning Materials of the Soudan.
 Castor Oil and Ground Nut Oil from Southern Rhodesia.
 Tobacco from Jamaica.
 Dammar Resins from the Federated Malay States.
 Rocks and Minerals from British Central Africa.
 Sansevieria Fibres from British East Africa.
 Tobacco from British Honduras.
 Inoy Kernels from West Africa.
 Rubbers from Uganda.
 Minerals from Cyprus.
 China Clay from Queensland.
 Cotton Cultivation in British East Africa.
 Origanum Oil from Cyprus.
 Cape Berry Wax from Cape Colony.
 Occurrence of Monazite in the Tin-Bearing Alluvium
 of the Malay Peninsula.

Special Articles.

Indian Aconites and their Poisonous Constituents.
 The Australian Pearl-Shell Fishery.
 Insects Which Attack Cotton in Egypt.
 The Maple Sugar Industry.
 Mica in Canada.
 Gold Dredging in California.
 The Guayule Rubber of Mexico.
 Recent Progress in the Practice of Green Manuring.
 The Seaweed Industry of Japan.
 Production and Uses of Mohair.
 Mineral Production in India.
 Coalfields of Cape Colony.
 Occurrence of Platinum.
 Production and Uses of Oil of Turpentine.
 Recent Work on African Rubber Vines.
 Nigerian Sorghum in Queensland.
 Recent Developments in German East Africa.
 Geology of Togoland.
 Occurrence and Uses of Corundum.
 Classification of Coals.
 British Association, 1906. Presidential Address to the
 Section of Chemistry and Agricultural Science.
 Cyanogenesis in Plants.
 Chemical Research in the Dutch Indies.
 Improvement of West African Cotton.
 The importance of Humus in Tropical Agriculture with
 special reference to Cocoa.
 Graphite and its Uses.

The following are the titles of the reports and special articles which appeared in the four numbers of the "Bulletin" for 1907:—

Reports on Investigations.

Fibres of British West Africa.
 Oil Beans from Southern Nigeria.
 Latex and Rubber of *Parameria glandulifera* from India.
 Copal Resin from the Gold Coast.
 Yebb Nuts from Somaliland.
 Kola Seeds from the Gold Coast.
 Cocoa from Uganda.
 Ginger from Sierra Leone.
 Timbers from the Mabira Forest, Uganda.
 Occurrence of Indigo in the "Gara Plant" of Sierra Leone.
 Tobacco from Northern Nigeria.
 "Ikpan" seeds from Southern Nigeria.
 Seeds of *Aleurites Fordii* and *Aleurites triloba* from Hong Kong.
 Chromite and Other Minerals from Rhodesia.
 Economic Products from British East Africa.
 Para Rubber from the Federated Malay States.
 Rubbers from the Gold Coast.
 Peat from the Falkland Islands.
 Iron Ore from Parapara, New Zealand.
 Tanning Materials from various Colonies and Protectorates.
 Cocoa from the Gold Coast Colony.
 "Nsa-Sana" Seeds from Southern Nigeria.
 Para Rubber from the Mergui Plantation, Burma.
Cryptostegia grandiflora Rubber from India.
 Jute Substitutes from the Nyasaland Protectorate.
 Silk Cocoons from Uganda.
 Materials for Cement Manufacture from Trinidad.

Special Articles.

Sansevieria and Agave Fibres in East Africa.
 Cotton-Growing in Spain.
 New Zealand Hemp.
 The Rubber Exhibition in Ceylon.
 Recent Developments in Portuguese East Africa.
 Hardwoods of Western Australia.
 Graphite: Its Occurrence and Uses.
 Insects and other Cotton Pests, and the Methods suggested for their Destruction.
 Sources, Manufacture and Industrial Uses of Alcohol.
 Geological Structure of Trinidad.
 Alluvial Tinstone Deposits of Northern Nigeria.
 Vegetable Products of Kontagora Province, Northern Nigeria.

Special Articles—continued.

Extension of the Cultivation of Jute and similar Fibres in India.
 Cotton-Growing in Algeria.
 Manganese Ores: their Uses, Occurrence, and Production.
 Fuel Resources of Canada.
 The Sponge Industry.
 Ceara Rubber in Portuguese East Africa.
 Recent Developments in German East Africa.
 Occurrence and Uses of Tantalum Ores.

Other Publications.

The reports on investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department, referred to in the following pages, have been usually made to the Governments of the Colonies and Protectorates concerned, and, in some instances, have been published in the Government Gazettes and in other local publications. Many of the reports made to the Government of India have been published in the Indian "Agricultural Ledger." Some of the more important reports have appeared in a condensed form in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute."

In addition to these the following reports have been issued in this country as Parliamentary Papers during 1906-7:—

- Report on the work of the Imperial Institute during the year 1905. (Cd. 3116, 1906.)
- Annual Report on the Indian Section of the Imperial Institute for the year 1905-06. (Cd. 3216, 1906.)
- Annual Report on the Indian Section of the Imperial Institute for the year 1906-07. (Cd. 3679, 1907.)
- Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Northern Nigeria, 1904-5. By Professor Dunstan. (Cd. 2875, 1906.)
- Reports on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Southern Nigeria, 1903-4 and 1904-5. By Professor Dunstan. (Cd. 2876, 1906.)
- Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Ceylon, 1904-05. By Professor Dunstan. (Cd. 3190, 1906.)
- Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey of Ceylon, 1905-06. By Professor Dunstan. (Cd. 3762, 1907.)

At the York Meeting of the British Association, an address on "Some Imperial Aspects of Applied Chemistry" was delivered by Professor Dunstan, as President of the Section of Chemistry and Agricultural Science. This address included an account of the work of the Scientific and Technical Department of the Imperial Institute in its relation as a Central Department for intelligence and investigation to the work

of agricultural and other technical departments in India and the Colonies, and also considered the importance of the work which is being accomplished by this department to the manufacturing industries of this country. This address was re-printed in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," Vol. IV., p. 310.

Certain investigations have furnished important scientific results which have been communicated to and published by the Royal Society, the Chemical Society, and other special societies. The following is a list of these publications:—

"The Present Position of the Chemistry of Rubber," by Mr. S. S. Pickles. (Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, York Meeting, 1906.)

"Report on the Present Position of the Chemistry of Gums," by Mr. H. H. Robinson. (Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, York Meeting, 1906.)

"The Chemical Aspects of Cyanogenesis in Plants," by Professor W. R. Dunstan and Dr. T. A. Henry. (Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, York Meeting, 1906.)

"Cyanogenesis in Plants. Part IV. Occurrence of Phaseolunatin in Common Flax," by Professor W. R. Dunstan, Dr. T. A. Henry and Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Proceedings of the Royal Society, 1906. 78 B. 145.)

"Cyanogenesis in Plants. Part V. Occurrence of Phaseolunatin in Cassava," by Professor W. R. Dunstan, Dr. T. A. Henry and Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Proceedings of the Royal Society, 1906. 78 B. 152.)

"On the Occurrence of Prussic Acid and its Derivatives in Plants," by Dr. T. A. Henry. (Science Progress, 1906.)

"The Gum of *Cochlospermum Gossypium*," by Mr. H. H. Robinson. (Transactions of the Chemical Society, 1906.)

"Investigation of Tanning Materials," by Dr. T. A. Henry. (Year Book of the Manchester, Liverpool, and District Tanner's Federation, 1906, p. 79.)

"Geikielite and the Ferro-Magnesian Titanates," by Mr. T. Crook and Mr. B. M. Jones. Mineralogical Magazine, 1906, 14, p. 160.)

"A New Method for the Estimation of Acetone," by Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, 1906, 25, 100.)

"The Rocks of the Cataracts of the Rio Madeira and the adjoining portions of the Beni and Mamose," by

Dr. J. W. Evans. (Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, 1906, 62, p. 88.)

"The Identity of the Amiantos or Karystian Stone of the Ancients with Chrysotile," by Dr. J. W. Evans. Dr. J. W. Evans. (Science Progress, 1906.)

"Gnomonic Projections on two planes," by Dr. J. W. Evans. (Mineralogical Magazine, 1906, 14, p. 149.)

"Determination of the Optic Axial Angle of Biaxial Crystals in Parallel Polarized Light," by Dr. J. W. Evans. (Mineralogical Magazine, 1906, 14, p. 157.)

"The Quantitative Classification of Igneous Rocks," by Dr. J. W. Evans. (Science Progress, 1906.)

1907:—

"Cyanogenesis in Plants. Part VI. Phaseolunatin and the Allied Ferments in Flax, Cassava, and the 'Lima bean,'" by Professor W. R. Dunstan, Dr. T. A. Henry, and Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Proceedings of the Royal Society, 1907. 79 B. 315.)

"Le glucoside cyanogenetique de *Phaseolus lunatus*," by Professor W. R. Dunstan and Dr. T. A. Henry. (Annales de Chimie et de Physique, 1907, 10, p. 118.)

"Le glucoside cyanogenetique de lin," by Professor W. R. Dunstan and Dr. T. A. Henry. (Bulletin de l'Academie Royale de Belgique, 1907, No. 7, p. 790.)

"Note on the Constituents of the Seeds of the Para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*)," by Professor W. R. Dunstan. (Proceedings of the Chemical Society, 1907, 23, 168.)

"The Rusting of Iron," by Professor W. R. Dunstan. (Proceedings of the Chemical Society, 1907, 23, 63.)

"Baddeleyite from Ceylon," by Mr. G. S. Blake and Dr. G. F. Herbert Smith. (Mineralogical Magazine, 1907, 14, 378.)

"Titaniferous Volcanic Rocks," by Mr. T. Crook. (Geological Magazine, 1907; April.)

"The Use of the Electro-Magnet in Petrography," by Mr. T. Crook. (Science Progress, 1907; July.)

"An Automatic Vacuum Regulator," by Mr. A. E. Andrews. (Chemical News, 1907; August 16, 96.)

"The Relationship between the Colour and Constitution of Organic Compounds," by Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Science Progress, 1907; April.)

"Mercury Derivatives of Pseudo-Acids containing the group -CO-NH," by Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Journal of the Chemical Society, 1907, 91, p. 1045.)

"The Hydrolysis of Amygdalin by Emulsin," by Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Proceedings of the Chemical Society, 1907, 23, p. 72.)

"Ueber Mercuri-Nitrophenole," by Dr. A. Hantzsch and Dr. S. J. M. Auld. (Berichte, 1906, 39, 1105.)

"Notes on Skiodroms and Isogyres," by Dr. J. W. Evans. (Mineralogical Magazine, 1907, 14, 230.)

"A simple arrangement and notation of the thirty-two classes of symmetry based on the symmetry of zone-axes," by Dr. J. W. Evans. (Mineralogical Magazine, 1907, 14, 360.)

"How should 'faults' be named and classified," by Dr. J. W. Evans. (Economic Geology, 1907, 2, 803.)

The following papers communicated by their authors to scientific societies deal with the investigations made at the suggestion of, and with materials supplied by, the Imperial Institute:—

"Calmatambin: A new Glucoside," by Dr. F. L. Pyman. (Transactions of the Chemical Society, 1907, p. 1228.)

"An Indigo-Yielding Plant," by Mr. A. G. Perkin. (Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, 1907, 26, 389.)

VII.—SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT.

Each year, since it was fully established in 1896, the work of this department has increased. In 1907, the staff consisted of 28 members, all of whom were qualified by scientific and technical training to assist in the conduct of researches, and to supply scientific and technical information concerning the occurrence and production of economic products, their industrial uses and commercial value. The reference sample room has proved of great value in supplying information to manufacturers and others who have enquired about new sources of raw materials, and also to agricultural and other officials from the Colonies who have visited the Institute.

The investigations conducted in the department during 1906 and 1907, which are described in detail in the separate sections, relate either to problems of tropical agriculture connected with the improvement of the cultivation and preparation of vegetable products, or to their technical uses and commercial value. Included under this head are a number

of products which are new to commerce. A very large number of minerals have also been examined and their chemical composition ascertained as the first step towards determining their commercial value. When results of special scientific importance are obtained these are communicated to the Royal Society or to one of the other scientific societies. During 1906 and 1907 a considerable number of papers from members of the scientific staff have been published (*see* list on pages 19-21). The resources of many of the Colonies and Protectorates being little known, it is important, with a view to development, that an inventory or *catalogue raisonné* of their products should be prepared and a decision arrived at as to those materials which are likely to repay collection or cultivation. The department has devoted much attention to this work. So far as vegetable products are concerned, their collection in the particular countries has usually been undertaken by the Agricultural and Botanical Departments which exist in many of the Colonies and Protectorates. Through the officers of these departments selections have been made of the subjects of greater importance, and the necessary material collected and forwarded to the Imperial Institute for investigation. In many of the Colonies and Protectorates no geological officers exist, and in several of these arrangements have been made for specially qualified men to conduct surveys of selected areas, and to collect authentic specimens of minerals which are forwarded to the Imperial Institute for investigation and report. The officers thus engaged in tropical Colonies and Protectorates return to this country during the wet season of each year, and assist at the Imperial Institute in the examination of the collected minerals, resuming the work of exploration in the ensuing season.

During 1906 and 1907, mineral surveys under the general supervision of the Director of the Imperial Institute, were in operation in four countries. Preliminary surveys were also undertaken in British East Africa and Uganda.

It is obvious that the success of the work of the department largely depends on the fullness and accuracy of the information and material supplied from the Colonies and Protectorates, and it is a great advantage for members of the staff, whenever they can be spared, to proceed to the countries concerned to prosecute special investigations and arrange for the conduct of local enquiries and experiments and the supply of authentic material. Unfortunately, the staff of the department has not been sufficiently extensive, whilst its current work has been too great to enable this temporary detachment of its officers to take place except under very special circumstances.

In addition to the systematic survey of the resources of the newer Colonies and Protectorates which has been referred to, the department has received from more developed Colonies and from many of the self-governing Colonies, as well as

from India, enquiries for information and investigation connected with agricultural problems and the utilisation of raw materials, many of which were of a confidential character.

Enquiries from business firms and others interested in the utilisation of raw materials have been freely answered and samples and information supplied, but laboratory investigations for commercial firms and private individuals have not been undertaken except under special circumstances. Requests for ordinary analyses have been referred to competent professional analysts.

It will be evident that, in order effectively to discharge the duties of a department for the supply of information and advice on tropical agriculture and tropical products, it is necessary to be in constant touch with the developments which are taking place and with the progress which is being made not only in every British Possession, but also in foreign countries and their colonies and protectorates. The collection and collation of all published information on subjects within the scope of the work of the department, and correspondence with similar departments abroad, has been an important part of its operations. In the subject of cotton cultivation alone, this has been a large and important work which, as far as possible, has been extended to other economic products.

The staff of the department consists of a number of scientific and technical assistants who have been for some years engaged in the investigation of the value of various classes of economic products, and with the numerous agricultural, geological, botanical, and other problems connected with their production or cultivation. Under their supervision are a number of junior assistants who have already received a scientific training and special chemical qualifications at a university or at a technical college where they have taken the usual degree or diploma. These men now specialise so as to gain experience in the applications of science to the solution of the practical problems with which the department is mainly concerned.

Although the applied sciences of chemistry, botany, geology and mineralogy are represented, it has not been possible to provide among the permanent staff experts in every branch of applied science, and in any case, it is desirable to utilise as far as possible the facilities offered by existing scientific and technical institutions for assisting the work of the department.

A reciprocal arrangement has been made with the Royal Gardens, Kew, by which all purely botanical matters have been referred to Kew, whilst all questions connected with the composition, utilisation, and commercial value of vegetable products are referred from Kew to the Imperial Institute. Similarly, in relation to animal products and the identification of insects, the Natural History Department of the British Museum and the Biological Department of the Agricultural College at Wye have been consulted.

Special problems connected with the composition and value of the vegetable dyes have been referred to the dyeing department of the Yorkshire College, Leeds, whilst several technical investigations, suggested by the scientific work of the department in connection with the utilisation of tanning materials, have been carried out by the Herold's Institute for tanning at Bermondsey. Several special questions relating to the utilisation of fibres have been referred to the Bradford Technical College.

Similarly, in connection with special technical investigations, assistance has been rendered by a number of distinguished authorities, among whom may be mentioned Professor Unwin, F.R.S., Professor Dalby, and Mr. Herbert Stone (technical examination of timbers), Professor Church, F.R.S. (value of food grains and feeding stuffs), Mr. A. G. Perkin, F.R.S. (dyes), Dr. Lewkowitsch (oils), Dr. Gordon Parker, (tanning materials), Mr. F. V. Theobald, M.A. (economic entomology), Professor J. T. Cash, F.R.S., and Professor Cushny, F.R.S. (drugs), Sir Thomas Wardle (silk). These and other authorities have dealt with special problems arising out of the work of the department.

A large number of manufacturing firms, merchants, and brokers have also rendered much assistance in determining the commercial value of raw materials on the basis of the results of their examination in the department.

The department has, therefore, been in a position not only to determine the nature and composition of materials, but also to submit to the expert referees and manufacturers, &c., suggestions for the commercial utilisation of these materials to be subsequently verified by actual technical trial on the large scale. By this means a trustworthy basis has been obtained for determining their actual commercial value and possibilities.

The principal investigations conducted during the year are summarised below under the headings of the various economic products to which they relate.

During 1906, 297 requests for investigations were received from India, the Colonies and Protectorates, whilst 282 enquiries were completed and reports made. In 1907, 392 requests for investigations were received and 398 reports completed. These investigations were conducted in connection with subjects concerning the following countries:—Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Canada, Cape Colony, Ceylon, Cyprus, Dominica, East Africa Protectorate, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gold Coast, Grenada, Hong Kong, India, Jamaica, Lagos, Mauritius, Natal, New Zealand, Northern Nigeria, Nyasaland, Orange River Colony, Queensland, Rhodesia, St. Helena, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somaliland, South Australia, Southern Nigeria, Sudan, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay Straits, Tasmania, Transvaal, Trinidad, Turks Islands, Uganda, Virgin Islands, Western Australia, Zanzibar.

A detailed account follows of the various subjects which have claimed the chief attention of the department during the two years under review. Brief allusion may be made here to a few of the most important of these subjects in connection with the countries concerned.

The progress of cotton cultivation in all the British Possessions has been carefully watched and information has been obtained as to the work which is being carried on in other countries. Samples of cotton grown in each British Possession have been examined and valued, reports being made to the Governments of the countries concerned and information supplied with reference to the various problems of cotton cultivation. In the summer of 1907 the Director visited Asia Minor at the instance of the Colonial Office in order to report on agricultural developments in that country, with special reference to cotton cultivation and other matters of importance in connection with similar developments in British Possessions.

Close touch has been maintained with the work of the British Cotton Growing Association, which has placed at the disposal of the department the reports of their managers and superintendents in the Colonies and Protectorates.

Considerable attention has also been given to the production of other fibre-yielding plants. The recent scarcity of Indian jute has rendered it desirable to consider whether jute and similar "bast" fibres could not be produced in West Africa, and a systematic investigation of the native fibres of Sierra Leone has been undertaken in conjunction with the Government of the Colony, and in association with the users of this class of fibre at home. The results of trial shipments of these fibres have shown that fibre of value to the jute manufacturer in this country can be grown in West Africa, including fibre from species of *Hibiscus*, *Honkenya* and *Triumfetta*, and in this connection it may be mentioned that a specimen of *Triumfetta semitriloba* fibre from the Gold Coast was valued in London at £35 per ton, with finest Bengal jute at £35 to £40 per ton.

A number of investigations have been conducted at the instance of the Government of St. Helena in connection with the establishment in the island of a fibre-producing industry. The growth of *Phormium tenax* (New Zealand hemp) has been extended, and arrangements made for the extraction of the fibre, which is now being shipped to this country.

The production of rubber has now become a most important subject for many of the tropical Colonies and Protectorates, and the department has supplied a great deal of information on the subject, and has examined and reported on the quality of the rubber produced by native and cultivated trees. The native collection of rubber from wild vines and trees will continue for many years to afford a substantial return, and the value of native rubber may be enhanced by the introduction of improved methods of collection and preparation.

It is, however, clear that the control of the methods of rubber collection and preparation adopted by the natives in the vast territories of forest in which rubber trees and plants occur presents administrative difficulties, and involves an expenditure which, in most cases, stands in the way of the introduction of anything approaching to the efficient regulation of the native rubber industry. Systematic planting of the larger rubber trees (such as *Hevea brasiliensis*), after adequate trial on a small scale of the suitability of the climate and other conditions, affords the best chance of securing a regular supply of rubber of the highest quality, and the progress already achieved in Ceylon and the Federated Malay States is causing other countries to consider this question. The West African Colonies and Protectorates in particular, as well as other Colonies, have been in communication with the department, with reference to the cultivation and production of rubber.

In connection with the present extensive planting of the Para rubber tree (*Hevea brasiliensis*), the fact that the abundant seeds of this tree can be utilised as the source of a valuable oil may become a matter of commercial importance in the near future, when the seeds will be available in quantities far in excess of those required for planting. The investigations conducted in the department have proved that this oil, which resembles linseed oil, will probably command about the same price as the latter commodity, whilst the residue of the seeds from which the oil has been expressed may prove to be serviceable locally as a feeding stuff for cattle. It is, therefore, possible that a valuable subsidiary industry may arise in connection with rubber planting.

The great possibilities of West Africa for the production of tropical products has led to a large share of the attention of the department being given to these Colonies and Protectorates. Besides cotton, fibres and rubber, the timbers and oil seeds of Southern Nigeria have been the subject of investigation, and certain new seeds have been introduced to manufacturers as sources of useful oils, especially for the manufacture of soap, and trial shipments of several of these have been arranged for. The tanning industry of West Africa has also been made the subject of investigation, with a view to the improvement of the leather at present produced, especially of certain kinds now demanded by the British manufacturer. The production of cocoa is an industry of growing importance in West Africa, especially in Southern Nigeria and the Gold Coast. In the latter Colony the subject of the improvement of the quality of the cocoa at present produced has engaged much of the attention of the department. The main point has been the demonstration by trial shipments that cocoa of the quality required by the British manufacturer can be produced. This has now been successfully shown, and as a result Messrs. Cadbury Brothers, Limited, have sent a representative to the Gold Coast in order to report upon the methods by which

this firm could advantageously co-operate with the native producer. In Uganda also conditions appear to be favourable to the cultivation of cocoa.

The production of ginger is a minor industry of some importance in Sierra Leone. Improvements in the methods of cultivation and preparation of this product have been suggested by the department, with the result that trial consignments of ginger produced by the improved methods have realised prices considerably above the average hitherto attained by West African ginger.

The Superintendent of Agriculture for British West Africa (Mr. G. C. Dudgeon) has been placed in communication with the Institute and has his headquarters there during his stay in England. The series of valuable reports which he has made have materially assisted the work of developing the resources of West Africa. Officers from Northern Nigeria, East Africa and other Colonies have also been attached to the Imperial Institute for special work either in connection with investigations or the arrangement of collections.

The mineral surveys of Southern and Northern Nigeria have made very satisfactory progress, and have been the means of bringing to light a number of minerals which seem likely to be of commercial importance to these countries. Two reports on the results of these surveys were published in 1906 (*see* p. 18). In Northern Nigeria limestone has been discovered in an accessible area, whilst an investigation has been made of the salt springs, with a view to determining their suitability for the production of salt of good quality. Tinstone and monazite sand have also been found in new localities. The quality and abundance of the tin-stone deposits justifies the belief that Northern Nigeria will become an important tin-producing country, as soon as transport facilities have been provided.

In Ceylon the mineral survey has had the result of attracting commercial attention to the varied mineral wealth of the island, and to the discovery of several minerals of commercial importance. Reports on the results of this survey have been issued as Parliamentary Papers (*see Publications*, p. 18).

In Nyasaland, in the first year of the survey, occurrences of coal, graphite, limestone, ores of iron and tin, and corundum have been located. The circumstance that extensive deposits of iron ore of good quality occur in the Protectorate may be of considerable importance in the future.

Extensive deposits of peat occur in the Falkland Islands, of which little or no use is made. The results of an exhaustive investigation of samples of this peat in the department showed that it is of excellent quality and adapted for the manufacture of briquettes. In view of the demand for fuel in South America, especially for use in steamers and locomotives, a syndicate has been formed with a view to the instalment of a peat briquetting industry in the Falkland Islands.

Considerable attention has been given during the period under review to an investigation of the resources of the

Seychelles, and numerous reports have been made to the Government of that Colony. It has been shown that several barks of trees belonging chiefly to the mangrove class are particularly suitable for the preparation of tanning extracts, and the commercial side of this question is now under consideration. The examination of certain volatile oils produced by plants grown in the islands has shown that these are of a quality which renders them of considerable value as perfumes.

In Cyprus, also, the examination of the oils derived from *origanum* and *marjoram*, which are used for perfuming soap, has shown that the production of such oils will prove to be a remunerative industry. A considerable quantity of Cyprus *origanum* oil has now been sold in England, and suggestions have been made with a view to improvements being effected in its quality.

As a result of an examination of a series of samples of gum arabic collected in Northern Nigeria, the attention of the users of this product was directed to the suitability of Northern Nigeria gum, with the result that a demand has arisen leading to an increase in the amount of gum collected and exported to this country. In the summer of 1907 the Director, at the instance of the Colonial Office, collected information abroad respecting the organisation of the trade in Senegal and Sudanese gum at Trieste and elsewhere, and steps have been taken to develop the industry in Northern Nigeria.

In the case of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, besides minerals, fibrous plants and rubbers, a number of essential oils and perfumes have been examined, and found to be of excellent quality. It seems probable that these may become the basis of a new industry.

Attention has also been given to the cultivation and preparation of tobacco in various Colonies. The conditions in Uganda and East Africa having been proved to be suitable, an expert selected by the Director of the Imperial Institute has been despatched by the Colonial Office to advise the local Governments on this subject and to start experimental work.

The investigations conducted for the Government of India form the subject of special reports issued as Parliamentary Papers (Cd. 3216, 1906, and Cd. 3679, 1907).

The Indian subjects dealt with have been very varied, among the more important being the examination and valuation of tanning materials, fibrous plants, the investigation of drugs and poisonous plants and of the quality of india-rubber.

A large number of manganese ores from different deposits in India were examined at the request of the Geological Survey of India. The results obtained will be of great value to those interested in the development of these important deposits. In connection with the attention which the Geological Survey of India is also giving to the possible utilisation of the deposits of bauxite which occur in India as sources of aluminium and

aluminous compounds, a number of typical Indian bauxites have been examined from the scientific and technical standpoint.

In connection with tropical agriculture an investigation of much practical importance to India, and to the Colonies, as well as of purely scientific interest, is that relating to the poisonous properties which are occasionally exhibited by certain food-grains and fodder plants. During the period under review further investigations on this subject have been completed, especially in connection with cassava and linseed, and the results of scientific interest communicated to the Royal Society (*see* list of papers on pp. 19-21). The poisonous action in most of the cases investigated is due to prussic acid, which is now shown to be formed from an occasional constituent of the plant, which has been very fully studied and the conditions of its production ascertained. The Board of Agriculture, as well as several manufacturing firms, have been in communication with the Imperial Institute on several practical questions of importance in connection with the use of certain animal-feeding materials which are imported from abroad for use in this country.

The scientific and technical work conducted for India at the Imperial Institute is carried on in communication with the Board of Scientific Advice appointed in India by the Government. This Board includes the heads of all the scientific and technical establishments in India. At the request of the Government of India the Royal Society acts in an advisory capacity in connection with this work, and has appointed a special Advisory Committee, of which the Director of the Imperial Institute is a member.

In India, as in the Colonies, the scientific and technical work of the Imperial Institute is directed towards supplementing and extending the work of the local scientific and technical departments (agricultural, botanical and mineral) by undertaking such investigations as cannot be conducted on the spot, and especially economic investigations which have to be supplemented by reference to manufacturers and commercial experts.

At the request of the Government of India the methods employed in the manufacture of opium alkaloids from waste opium at the opium factory at Ghazipur, have been studied and improved. A report on the improved processes suggested has been furnished, and the new plant required has since been despatched to India.

In addition to the work conducted for India and the Colonies, a number of materials produced in foreign countries have been examined at the instance of British Consuls abroad, on account of the probable interest of these products for the British manufacturer.

Several special investigations and enquiries have been undertaken for the Board of Trade, the Board of Agriculture, and the Foreign Office.

In the following account of the work carried on in the department during 1906 and 1907, the subjects are mentioned under the names of the various economic products to which the work has related. It will be seen that the work of the department is becoming of increasing importance to the Colonies, not only as a means of investigating and providing trustworthy reports as to the probable value of little-known materials, but also through the supply of information respecting the constantly changing requirements of manufacturers and users of well-known raw materials.

The reports of the Institute are generally made to the Colonial Governments, but there has been during the period a remarkable increase in the requests for information made to the Institute by manufacturers and users of raw materials both in this country and abroad.

SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATIONS.

MINERALS.

Minerals reported on during 1906.	No.	Minerals reported on during 1907.	No.	Minerals awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Sierra Leone ...	22	Cyprus ...	1	Cyprus ...	5
*Southern Nigeria and Lagos.	34	Sierra Leone ...	4	*Southern Nigeria and Lagos.	328
Cape Colony ...	2	Gold Coast Colony	2	*Northern Nigeria	242
Orange River Colony.	3	*Southern Nigeria and Lagos.	8	Cape Colony ...	3
Transvaal ...	1	*Northern Nigeria	771	*British East Africa.	26
Rhodesia ...	5	St. Helena ...	3	†Uganda ...	58
Nyasaland ...	5	Cape Colony ...	6	Rhodesia ...	4
Uganda ...	22	Natal ...	2	*Nyasaland ...	242
British East Africa	123	Orange River Colony.	7	India ...	97
Zanzibar ...	8	Rhodesia ...	2	*Ceylon ...	48
Sudan ...	8	Nyasaland ...	7	Federated Malay States.	1
Seychelles ...	2	Uganda ...	9	South Australia ...	3
India ...	85	British East Africa.	3	Falkland Islands	6
*Ceylon ...	230	Seychelles ...	4		
Federated Malay States.	7	India ...	8		
South Australia ...	5	*Ceylon ...	235		
Western Australia	1	Federated Malay States.	11		
New Zealand ...	1	Tasmania ...	4		
Falkland Islands ...	13	Queensland ...	1		
British Honduras	1	Fiji ...	1		
Trinidad ...	2	Falkland Islands	1		
Turks Islands ...	1	Virgin Islands ...	3		
Newfoundland ...	3	Dominica ...	1		
Foreign Countries	8	Trinidad ...	2		
Miscellaneous ...	5	Canada ...	1		
		United Kingdom	18		
		Foreign Countries	25		
Total ...	597	Total ...	1140	Total ...	1063

* Mainly collected by the officers of the mineral survey.

† Includes samples collected by the mineralogist attached to the Anglo-Congolese Boundary Commission.

Sierra Leone.—The minerals received from this Colony were mainly sands supposed to contain rare earths. One or two of these proved to contain traces of monazite. Iron ore of fair quality has been reported on, as well as several sands consisting mainly of ilmenite and magnetic iron ore.

Gold Coast.—Specimens of mineral oil and bitumen were examined during 1907.

St. Helena.—Several specimens of the manganese ores found in this Island were examined during 1907. They proved to be of rather poor quality and unsuitable for use without preliminary dressing.

Cape Colony.—China clay of excellent quality, probably suitable for export, was examined in 1906. During 1907 manganese ores, crocidolite asbestos, china clay, chromite, and rocks containing traces of platinum were received for examination, and most of these were the subjects of reports to the Government during the year.

Natal.—The minerals received during 1907 included graphite and iron ore. The latter proved to be of good quality. The graphite is still under investigation.

Orange River Colony.—The minerals from this Colony, examined during 1907, included two of some general interest, viz., a crude salt containing 61 per cent. of true salt (sodium chloride) and a specimen of sodium sulphate. Both these products were obtained from natural salt springs.

Rhodesia.—Several minerals of economic interest were received in 1906, viz., antimony and chromium ores, a supposed gold ore, and marble, suitable for decorative stone work. In 1907 several other minerals were received for identification, and in addition a memorandum was prepared suggesting suitable manurial treatment for a series of soils on the basis of the results of analyses by the Agricultural Department at Buluwayo. At the end of 1907 soils, plumbago, clay, mica, and other minerals were still under investigation.

British East Africa.—During 1906 an extensive series of rocks collected during the course of the Anglo-German Boundary Commission in East Africa was received for identification. Soil from the neighbourhood of the Tana River was also examined.

Uganda.—Reference has been made above to the examination of minerals of interest collected during the progress of the Anglo-Congolese Boundary Commission.

In addition a number of minerals from this Protectorate have been received from the Government. In 1906 these included iron ore, limestone, graphite, and kaolin, and in 1907, specimens of water and brine from mineral springs, and an iron ore from the Masindi district. Iron is smelted by the natives in this district in a primitive fashion, and as transport

from the coast is difficult and expensive, it appears likely that the native iron smelting industry is worth encouragement, and at the request of the Government, a memorandum has been prepared describing a furnace of a simple type suitable for smelting iron, which can be operated by means of cold blast produced by water power.

Sudan. The minerals examined during 1906 included varieties of "natron" (consisting of sodium carbonate and sodium sulphate) and of graphitic schist, iron ore, and locally smelted iron.

Seychelles.—The composition and value of the phosphate deposits has been considered in consultation with users of these materials in this country.

During 1906 the mineral phosphates found in Alphonse and Marie Louise Islands were examined. These proved to be of excellent quality, containing from 64 to 67 per cent. of calcium phosphate with satisfactorily small amounts of impurities, such as iron and alumina, and were valued at 35s. to 40s. per ton. In 1907 specimens of the yellow laterites found in several of the islands were received: these proved to be of poor quality and unsuitable for the manufacture of aluminous products.

India.—During 1906 an extensive series of manganese ores collected by the Geological Survey of India were examined and reported on, and early in 1907 a supplementary report giving the results of complete analyses of a certain number of the ores was forwarded to India. These manganese ores are typical of those obtainable in the Central Provinces in India, and the results of these combined geological and chemical investigations should be of service not only to those interested in the development of these deposits in India, but also to steel manufacturers in this country and elsewhere. Information concerning these ores has been supplied to commercial firms in this country.

The Geological Survey of India has also been giving attention to the possibility of utilising the extensive deposits of bauxite (laterite), which occur in India, for the preparation of alumina and aluminous compounds and possibly for the manufacture of metallic aluminium. In connection with this enquiry six typical Indian bauxites were sent to the Imperial Institute for examination. The results showed that they were of promising character, and that although differing in certain respects from the typical bauxites now used in Europe as a source of aluminium and aluminous compounds, they did not present any insuperable difficulties for use as raw materials for such purposes.

A series of Indian pottery clays collected by the Officiating Reporter on Economic Products, in consultation with the Geological Survey of India, has also been received and is still under investigation.

Apart from the minerals referred to above, various minerals for valuation or identification have been received, partly from officers of provincial governments in India and partly from commercial firms and private individuals. Among samples so received may be mentioned, mica, gypsum, calcite, orpiment, samarskite, pitchblende, &c.

Federated Malay States.—In 1906 samples of corundum, monazite sand, "amang" (a local term for the residues from washing operations carried out in the preparation of tin ore for smelting), and "mineral tailings" were examined. The first three products proved to be of economic value, and as regards "amang," a method of recovering the tinstone and monazite from the mixture, was suggested. The separation of monazite from tinstone may in the future prove to be a profitable undertaking, enabling the valuable monazite to be separated and making it possible to smelt the tinstone.

In 1907 a series of tin ores and of limestone carrying tinstone were received for examination and reported on. At the end of 1907 further samples of "amang" were under investigation.

Western Australia.—Specimens of tantalite were received in 1906 and during the two years under review, information regarding the market for, and developments in the uses of, this ore has been supplied to the Government of the State.

Southern Australia.—The minerals received from this State for examination have included raw sienna, graphite, kaolin, and carnotite. The last-mentioned rare mineral is still under investigation.

Falkland Islands.—The peat from these islands has been fully examined and reported on during 1906 and 1907. The peat proved to be of good quality, and full information was supplied as to modern methods of making compressed peat fuel. As a result of this work a concession to work the deposits has been applied for by a syndicate, with a view to the production of compressed peat fuel for use in the islands and in the neighbouring South American States.

New Zealand.—A sample of the iron ore found at Parapara was received and examined. It proved to be a very rich ore, of great value for smelting purposes.

Trinidad.—Further samples of manjak were received for examination in 1906. In 1907 limestone and marl were received from the Colonial Geologist for examination and technical trial as cement-making materials. Cement made from these materials proved to be of good quality and quite suitable for constructional purposes.

Turks Island.—The salt produced in this Island, mainly for export to the United States, was received for examination.

This material is much in favour in the United States for salting provisions. The sample proved to be exceptionally pure.

Foreign Countries.—A considerable number of samples were received during the two years from British Consuls in foreign countries. None of the mineral samples so received proved to be of special economic interest.

Mineral Surveys.

The mineral surveys in Ceylon, Southern Nigeria and Northern Nigeria, referred to in the previous report, were continued during 1906, and a new survey was undertaken in the Nyasaland Protectorate. During 1907 arrangements were also made for the examination at the Imperial Institute of minerals collected by (1) the mineralogist appointed to accompany the Anglo-Congolese Boundary Commission, and (2) the Government mining expert appointed in British East Africa.

Ceylon.—1906.—Three reports were made during the year to the Government of Ceylon giving the results of the examination at the Imperial Institute of minerals forwarded from Ceylon in connection with the mineral survey, and these have since been published by the Colonial Office, together with the previous year's report, in Professor Dunstan's "Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey in 1904-05" (Cd. 3190 of 1906). The most interesting minerals described were zirke-lite, tscheffkinite, monazite, fergusonite and pitchblende, all of which contain the valuable oxide thorium, which is the basis of the mantles used for incandescent gas lighting. None of these minerals is, however, so rich in thorium as the new mineral, thorianite, previously described, but they are all likely to be of commercial value as sources of thorium.

The same report gives the results of the examination of a very large number of gravels sent, with the approval of the Government of Ceylon, to the Imperial Institute by residents in Ceylon interested in mineral production. Most of these gravels consisted of zircon or ilmenite, and were of no commercial value, but a few contained minerals of economic interest, such as tinstone, allanite, monazite, thorite and thorianite, and where such minerals were present in sufficient quantity, those interested were placed in communication with manufacturers in this country, who wished to utilize such minerals.

1907.—Professor Dunstan's "Report on the Results of the Mineral Survey in 1905-06" was issued during the year in the Miscellaneous Series of Colonial Reports (Cd. 3762 of 1907). This gives the results of the examination of minerals collected during the course of the survey in 1905-06. The minerals received were mainly concentrates prepared in the course of a systematic investigation of stream beds and alluvial deposits in various districts for thorianite and other

rare minerals. This investigation has shown that thorite, thorianite, monazite and gold are widely distributed in Ceylon, but usually only in small quantities and somewhat irregularly. Further exploration in Ceylon will decide whether such gravels will repay working.

Other minerals of economic interest received and reported on were kaolin, galena, limestone, rutile and molybdenite. The specimens awaiting investigation at the end of 1907 were mainly clays, micas, and concentrates containing thorium minerals.

In addition, a large number of minerals, mainly for identification and valuation, were received from residents in Ceylon.

Southern Nigeria and Lagos.—1906.—The samples of natural pitch collected by the officers of the survey during their investigation of the bituminous sand deposits of Lagos were reported on. These proved to be mainly sands, containing from 10 to 20 per cent. of true bitumen. In most cases the material is unsuitable for paving purposes, as the siliceous matrix will not bind under pressure in the same manner as the European asphalt (which have a limestone matrix) at present utilized.

1907.—A number of minerals of considerable economic importance were reported on during the year. These included lignite from Moroko, which proved to be similar to the deposits at Okpenam and Ibousa previously examined, and galena and zinc blende from the deposits at Amago-Omegga. The lignite deposits are likely to be of great importance in the Colony, as affording a supply of fuel, which will be suitable for steam-raising. At the end of 1907 there were still awaiting investigation a large number of samples of lignite collected at various points in the areas surveyed during the season 1906-07, and a number of concentrates prepared from river gravels in the same neighbourhoods.

Northern Nigeria.—During the two years 1906 and 1907 over 700 specimens of rocks, concentrates and massive minerals were received for examination, and most of them have now been reported on to the Government of the Colony, whilst summary reports on the progress and results of the survey are in preparation.

The concentrates were essentially of three types (1) containing tinstone, (2) containing monazite, and (3) containing magnetic iron oxide intermixed with more or less ilmenite. These were collected over a very considerable area of the Protectorate, and the results of their examination have thrown much light on the distribution of these various minerals. Tinstone is already being worked in the Bauchi district of the Protectorate, and arrangements have been made for smelting the metal locally. As regards monazite it appears that although this mineral is widely distributed the deposits, so

far known; are not rich enough to be worth working by the methods at present available and at the prices now obtainable.

Deposits of limonitic iron ore of excellent quality were located during 1906. These are situated near navigable rivers and may be of value for export purposes if the deposits prove to be sufficiently extensive. These deposits are being used at present to a small extent by the natives for smelting iron for local use.

Among the more important economic work conducted by the survey, was the investigation of the brine springs at Awe, which appear to have been used in a primitive and uneconomical fashion since early times by the natives as a source of salt. Systematic borings have been made in this neighbourhood, in order to obtain knowledge of the sources of the salt. These investigations are still in progress. It has been already found that the outflow of brine can be enormously increased. This brine on evaporation yields salt of excellent quality. The brine is unfortunately rather weak, and its economical evaporation is a problem of some difficulty, but in view of the low price of labour in the Protectorate and the fact that there is a long dry season during which evaporation by solar heat can be carried on to great advantage, it seems likely that this could be cheaply effected. A preliminary scheme involving the employment of "salins" of the type used in France and Spain has been suggested for use in the Protectorate, and as the price of salt at Awe varies from £12 to £26 per ton, depending on its quality, it seems likely that this industry, if properly organised, and carried out on modern lines, should be remunerative. The district in which the brine springs occur is not far from navigable rivers, so that it ought to be possible to distribute the salt cheaply throughout a considerable part of the Protectorate, and render unnecessary the considerable import of European salt which takes place at present.

Nyasaland.—This survey was commenced in September, 1906. Since then a large number of rocks and minerals have been received for examination, and at the end of 1907 a report on those collected during the season 1906-07 was in preparation. These included corundum, iron ores, coal, shale and graphite. The graphite may be of some importance. The samples consisted of flake graphite of excellent quality.

At the end of 1907 there remained under investigation a number of minerals of which the most important were coal from two deposits which have been thoroughly explored by the officers of the survey.

A considerable number of minerals forwarded by Political officers have also been reported on. These include limestones, iron ores, and quartz crystals, all of which are of commercial interest.

Anglo-Congolese Survey Commission.—The mineralogist nominated by the Director of the Imperial Institute to accompany this Commission during the work of delimiting the frontier between Uganda and the Congo Free State has examined the geological structure of the country along the boundary, and has sent to the Imperial Institute periodical reports on the structure of the country traversed. The rocks and minerals collected are at present under investigation.

British East Africa. The mining expert, recently appointed by the Government of the Protectorate to deal with mining claims and mineral rights, is working in communication with the Imperial Institute with a view to ascertaining the nature and value of minerals found in the Protectorate. A number of minerals have been received and are at present under investigation.

FIBRES (INCLUDING COTTON).

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Cyprus	1	Cyprus	2	Cyprus	1
Sudan	5	Sudan	10	British East Africa.	2
British East Africa	33	British East Africa.	10	Sierra Leone ...	1
Uganda	2	Africa.		Southern Nigeria	1
Rhodesia	5	Nyasaland Protectorate.	43	Northern Nigeria	4
Transvaal	40	Uganda	11	India	1
Gambia	1	Rhodesia	4	Foreign countries	31
Gold Coast	2	Natal	22		
Sierra Leone ...	17	Transvaal	45		
Southern Nigeria...	8	Orange River Colony.	4		
St. Helena	2	Cape Colony ...	3		
India	5	Gambia	7		
Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.	2	Gold Coast	18		
West Indies	17	Sierra Leone ...	6		
British Honduras	1	Southern Nigeria	54		
Australia	1	Northern Nigeria	33		
Foreign countries	15	Mauritius	13		
Unknown sources	4	St. Helena	2		
		India	27		
		Ceylon	2		
		Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.	1		
		West Indies	1		
		British Guiana ...	18		
		Australia	2		
		United Kingdom	1		
		Foreign countries	14		
		Unknown sources	2		
Total... ..	161	Total... ..	365	Total... ..	41

Cotton.

The number of cottons reported on in 1906 was 71, and in 1907 256. At the end of 1907, 31 samples were awaiting investigation.

In addition to the 327 samples reported on in 1906-07, 104 samples were examined and added to the reference collection, which now amounts to nearly 1,000 samples of cotton and cotton-plant specimens. A collection of standard commercial cottons, comprising about 60 samples, has also been formed.

The reports on cottons included a technical examination of the cotton and valuations by commercial experts. Insect pests were frequently found in the samples: in most cases these were identified and suggestions for remedial measures were incorporated in the report. The insect pests were labelled and preserved for future reference.

Much agricultural information has been given in reply to enquiries with reference to soil, manures and the treatment of insect and fungoid pests in their relation to cotton cultivation. A number of articles on cotton cultivation have been contributed to the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," and all available information appertaining to the progress of cotton cultivation in the various British Colonies and Dependencies has been collected and arranged for reference.

Cotton has been received for examination from the following countries:—Sudan, British East Africa, Uganda, Nyasaland, the Transvaal, Orange River Colony, Natal, Cape Colony, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast Colony, Southern Nigeria, Northern Nigeria, India, Ceylon, Mauritius, St. Helena, Federated Malay States, Grenada, Barbados, St. Vincent, Trinidad, British Guiana, British Honduras, Mozambique, Java, and New Caledonia.

The results of the examination of cotton are briefly summarised in the following paragraphs:—

1906.

Sudan.—Two samples, one ginned and the other unginned, from the Bahr-el-Ghazal were similar to Peruvian cotton, but contained a quantity of short fibre.

East Africa Protectorate.—Thirteen samples were examined, comprising nine Egyptian, two American and two Sea Island varieties. The Egyptian cottons were valued at $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound less than "fully good fair" Brown Egyptian, the American at 50 points less than "middling American," and the Sea Island at $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound less than "fancy" Florida Sea Island. The Egyptian varieties were probably the most promising. In many of the samples there were insect pests of *Oxycaenus* sp., and some small grubs were found alive in the seeds.

Uganda.—A sample of Egyptian cotton grown at Entebbe was examined. It was of the "Abassi" type, but rather rough, and worth $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ per pound when "good" Abassi was quoted at $9\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound.

Transvaal.—Twenty-seven samples of cotton grown in the Zoutpansberg district were examined. Twenty-one were of improved American Upland type, four were Egyptian and the remaining two Sea Island varieties. The American Upland cottons were the most satisfactory; they were generally of excellent quality, and were valued at from $5.75d.$ to $8.25d.$ per pound, with "middling" American at $6.08d.$ per pound. The Egyptian cottons were of the "Mitafifi" type, of promising quality, and worth from $7\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $8\frac{1}{4}d.$ per pound, "good" Brown Egyptian at $8\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound. The Sea Island variety was of fairly good quality, and was regarded as worth $9d.$ per pound, with "fancy" Georgia Sea Island at $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound.

Four samples were examined which had been grown in Swaziland; they were stated to consist of the residue left on the bushes after the first picking. All the samples were of useful quality.

British West Africa. Thirty-one samples were received; one from Southern Nigeria (Lagos) was examined and valued, whilst one from the Gambia, and twenty-nine from the Gold Coast were added to the reference collection.

The cotton from Southern Nigeria was of the Sea Island variety; it was of promising quality and worth $10d.$ to $11d.$ per pound, with "fancy" Florida Sea Island at $13d.$ per pound.

India.—A sample of unginned cotton grown in the Singbhum district of Bengal was short and harsh, but of satisfactory quality. It was valued at $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ per pound, with "fine" Bengal at $4\frac{1}{4}d.$ per pound.

Grenada.—Two samples of ginned cotton grown in Carriacou were examined. One was of "Sea Island" character, of good quality and worth $10d.$ to $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound, with "fancy" Florida Sea Island at $13d.$ per pound. The second sample, consisting of "Marie Galante" cotton, was of Peruvian type and was valued at $7d.$ to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound, with "good" moderately rough Peruvian at $7\frac{3}{4}d.$ per pound.

Barbados.—Six samples were added to the reference collection.

St. Vincent.—Fourteen samples of ginned Sea Island cotton were examined and found, in the majority of cases, to be of excellent quality, highly lustrous and uniform in colour. It was pointed out that some of the samples had been stained by oil from crushed seeds, and it was recommended that the gins should be more carefully adjusted.

British Honduras.—A sample of unginned Sea Island cotton grown at the Corozal station, was examined. It was found to

be stained, immature, and greatly deteriorated, and nominally worth about 8*d.* per pound, with "fancy" Florida Sea Island at 12*d.* per pound. It was suggested that better results might perhaps be obtained by the cultivation of American Upland or Egyptian cottons.

Mozambique.—Three samples of ginned cotton were examined; two were probably native varieties, but were not unlike Egyptian cotton. The third sample, a brown Egyptian variety, was the most satisfactory; it was very clean, soft and of good colour. The first two were sold at 6*d.* and 7½*d.* per pound, and the third at 9*d.* per pound, with "fully good fair" brown Egyptian at 9½*d.* per pound.

Java.—Two samples of ginned brown Egyptian cotton were examined and found to be of good useful quality, but not equal to a standard sample of brown Egyptian cotton with which they were compared.

1907.

Sudan. Two samples of ginned and eight samples of unginned cotton were examined. They comprised American Upland, Sea Island, Egyptian, Caravonica and native varieties. The American cottons were of very good quality and were valued at prices higher than those current for "middling" American cotton. The other specimens, although not equal in value to standard samples, were of promising quality, and would be readily saleable.

Uganda.—Two samples of Caravonica cotton of the so-called "silk" variety, and one sample of "Black Rattler" American cotton were examined. The Caravonica cotton was of very good quality, similar to Egyptian Abassi, and was valued at 9½*d.* to 10*d.* per pound, with "good" Abassi at 14½*d.* per pound. The American cotton which had been grown in the Chiole district, though rather harsh and woolly, was worth about ½*d.* per pound more than "middling" American cotton.

Nyasaland.—Thirty-nine samples of cotton, twenty-two ginned and seventeen unginned, which were examined, included American Upland, Sea Island, Egyptian and native varieties. There was a great variation in the quality of the material, the same variety of cotton grown on different estates showing widely different qualities. Many of the samples were stained and showed signs of the attack of insect pests. It was considered that on the whole the cottons were of very promising quality, and that with greater care in cultivation and the adoption of preventive measures against the attacks of insect pests, it would be possible to grow very good, marketable cotton, both American and Egyptian, in Nyasaland. Three additional samples were added to the reference collection.

Transvaal.—Forty-three samples of cotton were examined; fifteen were stated to have been badly picked, fifteen were

"ratooned" cottons, and the remaining thirteen samples had been picked from the plants of the first year, grown on land which had been twice irrigated. The varieties included American, Sea Island, Egyptian and Indian. The American cottons were the most promising and were valued at 5*d.* to 7·75*d.* per pound, with "middling" American at 5·66*d.* per pound. The other specimens were fairly satisfactory, but not equal to standard samples of the corresponding varieties.

Orange River Colony.—A sample of unginned cotton grown from improved American seed was examined. It was of very good quality but slightly immature, and was valued at 5½*d.* to 6½*d.* per pound, with "middling" American at 6·18*d.* per pound.

Natal.—Twenty-eight samples of ginned cotton were received from Natal, comprising American, Sea Island, Egyptian and "kidney" varieties. The improved American cottons were the most satisfactory, being valued at from 5½*d.* to 11*d.* per pound, with "middling" American at 7·40*d.* per pound. As many of the samples contained stained and immature cotton, the adoption of improved methods of cultivation and harvesting, as well as preventive measures against the ravages of insect pests, were especially recommended.

Cape Colony.—Two samples of cotton were received for examination. One, which had been grown in Griqualand West, was found to be a mixture of Sea Island and brown Egyptian cotton; it was of fair quality and was valued at about 9½*d.* per pound, with "fully good fair" brown Egyptian at 10½*d.* per pound. The advisability of keeping the different varieties distinct was specially pointed out. The second sample, which had been grown at Port Elizabeth, consisted of Sea Island cotton of promising quality, and was valued at 12*d.* per pound, with "fancy" Florida Sea Island at 18½*d.* per pound.

British West Africa.—Seventy-six samples were examined, of which one was grown in the Gambia, two in Sierra Leone, thirteen in the Gold Coast, thirty-one in Southern Nigeria and twenty-nine in Northern Nigeria, as follows:—

Gambia.—A sample of unginned native cotton which was examined was found to be of fairly good quality and somewhat similar to American cotton. It contained a quantity of stained fibre and was valued at 7*d.* per pound, with "middling" American at 7·40*d.* per pound.

Sierra Leone.—Two samples of unginned "Quondi" cotton were found to be of good quality and similar to Indian cotton. They were valued at 5½*d.* and 5¾*d.* per pound, with "good" Broach at 5¾*d.* per pound.

Gold Coast.—Thirteen samples of unginned cotton received from the Gold Coast, comprised American, native and hybrid varieties. The cotton was of very good quality, certain

samples being valued at $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound, with "middling" American at $6'6d.$ per pound.

Southern Nigeria.—Eight samples of ginned cotton, grown on the Moor Plantation, Lagos, were examined. They consisted of native and hybrid varieties of good quality and of a little higher commercial value than "middling" American cotton.

Sixteen samples of ginned cotton from the Government Plantation at Oloke-Meji had apparently been grown from American seed, with the exception of one native or "khaki" cotton. The American varieties were of very good quality and were valued at from $6\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound, when "middling" American was quoted at $6'64d.$ per pound.

Seven samples, consisting of American, native and hybrid varieties were examined and found to be of good marketable quality.

Eighteen additional samples were added to the reference collection.

Northern Nigeria.—The twenty-nine samples of cotton examined had been grown in various provinces. They comprised American, Egyptian, Brazilian and native varieties. The cotton was generally of promising quality, although some of the samples were much stained. The American cottons were valued at from $5\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound, with "middling" American at $6'39d.$ per pound. The native varieties were also of good value, but the Egyptian and Brazilian cottons were of poor quality and not likely to repay cultivation.

One additional sample was added to the reference collection.

India.—A sample of long-stapled cotton grown at Deesa, Bombay, was examined. The cotton was rather rough but of good quality and somewhat similar to an American Upland cotton.

A sample from the Singbhum district of Bengal was of very satisfactory quality and worth about $6d.$ per pound, with "fine" machine-ginned Broach at $5'16d.$ per pound.

Six samples of long-stapled cotton from Burma and Bengal were examined and found to be of promising quality and about equal in value to "middling" American cotton.

Three samples of Caravonica cotton from Madras were of excellent quality and were valued at from $12d.$ to $14d.$ per pound, with "good" Abassi at $14\frac{7}{8}d.$ per pound.

Seven samples of cotton from Poona, Bombay, were examined and found to be of poor quality; they were valued at from $3d.$ to $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per pound, with "middling" American at $7'16d.$ per pound.

Forty additional samples of cotton, sixteen samples of cotton-soil, and a large number of herbarium specimens were added to the reference collection.

Burma.—Two samples were added to the reference collection.

Ceylon.—Three samples were added to the reference collection.

Mauritius.—Twelve samples of unginned cotton were examined; of these, two were of the Sea Island variety, three were Egyptian Mitaffi, and seven were American Upland cottons. The samples were of fair quality, but in some cases appeared to have been grown from mixed seed, and were consequently of low commercial value.

St. Helena.—One sample was added to the reference collection.

Federated Malay States.—A sample of cotton, stated to be an Egyptian variety, was examined and found to be harsh but of good colour and length. It approached a Peruvian type in character, and was valued at 8*d.* per pound, with "good" moderately rough Peruvian at 8·35*d.* per pound.

Trinidad.—A sample of improved American "Sunflower" cotton was soft and silky and of very good quality. It was valued at 10*d.* per pound, when "middling" American was quoted at 7·18*d.* per pound.

British Guiana.—Eighteen samples of ginned cotton of different varieties were examined. They comprised American, Sea Island, Egyptian, Peruvian, Caravonica and native cottons. These samples were of very promising quality and were valued at prices generally equal to, if not higher than, those of standard samples of similar varieties with which they were compared.

Mozambique.—Two samples of ginned cotton of brown Egyptian variety were found to be of fairly good quality but uneven in colour, and worth, respectively, 6*d.* and 6½*d.* per pound, when "fully good fair" brown Egyptian cotton was 10½*d.* per pound.

New Caledonia.—Two very small samples of ginned cotton were examined; one was stated to be a native variety and the other American Upland. The samples appeared to be of promising quality, but they were too small for valuation.

At the end of the year, 30 samples of cotton from Asia Minor and one sample from Turkey remained under investigation.

Jute and Similar Fibres.

1906.—In continuation of the endeavours which are being made to establish a fibre industry in Sierra Leone, specimens of the fibres of *Hibiscus quinquelobus*, *H. lasiocarpus*, *H. esculentus* and *Honckenya ficifolia* were examined, together with a sample of a fibre termed "Borfroko," the botanical identity of which is at present unknown. The fibre of

Hibiscus quinquelobus ("Kowe" or "Corwey" fibre) has received particular attention in Sierra Leone owing to the facility with which it can be prepared. The sample examined was of good quality and resembled jute in its chemical composition and behaviour. The specimen of *H. esculentus*, although of promising character, was weak and of inferior length. This sample had been collected after the second series of fruits had been gathered. It was suggested that samples should be collected at different ages and submitted for examination in order that the best period for the extraction of the fibre could be ascertained, and this is being done. *Honckenya ficifolia* ("Napunti") grows abundantly in the swamps of the Sierra Leone Protectorate, and would yield a constant supply of fibre if care was taken in cutting it. It has been stated, however, that considerable difficulty is experienced in extracting the fibre, especially in the case of the older plants, and it has therefore been recommended that experiments should be carried out with the object of determining whether the fibre can be more successfully prepared from young plants. A sample of *Honckenya ficifolia* fibre was also received from the Gold Coast, but had been imperfectly cleaned, and was consequently of little value.

All these fibres, after examination, have been referred to manufacturers and commercial experts, and recommendations made to the authorities in the Colony as to further action.

Fibres of the jute class from the Sudan, Gambia and Mexico were also examined and reported on.

1907.—One of the most important fibre investigations carried out during 1907 was in connection with the Nyasaland fibres, known locally as "Denji" and "Nzonogwe," derived from *Sida rhombifolia* and *Triumfetta rhomboidea*, respectively. The fibres were found to be of useful quality. Three bales of the material which were forwarded for technical trials were submitted to a firm of spinners, who found that the fibres could be spun into very fair yarns, which could be utilised for the manufacture of bagging. The fibres were considered to be about equal in value to the medium grades of jute.

A consignment of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of "Kowe" (*Hibiscus quinquelobus*) fibre was received from Sierra Leone. The product was too coarse and harsh to be employed as a jute substitute, but realised £17 to £18 in the London market, for use in rope manufacture. A sample of "Napunti" (*Honckenya ficifolia*) fibre also forwarded from Sierra Leone, consisted of coarse, brown, bast ribbons, and it was stated that this represented the only form in which the natives could prepare the fibre. The material was only suitable for use as a paper material, and its collection and exportation for this purpose would probably be unremunerative.

A specimen of *Triumfetta semitriloba* fibre of excellent quality was received from the Gold Coast, and was valued at £35 per ton (with finest Bengal jute at £35 to £40).

Samples of jute were forwarded from the Gambia and from Northern and Southern Nigeria and furnished conclusive evidence that jute of excellent quality can be grown in West Africa if other conditions are favourable to the industry. The two samples from the Gambia were valued at £21 and £28, whilst the Northern Nigeria specimens were valued at £22 and £24 per ton. The samples from Southern Nigeria were very weak and in a matted and tangled condition, and worth not more than a few pounds per ton for use as tow. This bad result was probably due to over-retting.

Other jute-like fibres included those of *Hibiscus tiliaceus*, *H. quinquelobus*, *H. rostellatus* and *Urena lobata* from the Gambia, *Hibiscus esculentus* and *H. lunariifolius* from Southern Nigeria, *H. cannabinus* from Uganda, *H. radiatus* from Brazil, and *Hibiscus* sp. and *Urena* sp. from India.

A sample of jute from Southern Nigeria was under investigation at the close of the year.

Plantain and Banana Fibres (Musa spp.).

1906.—Fibres of *Musa* spp. were examined from Southern Nigeria, British East Africa, the Straits Settlements and Abyssinia. The samples from Southern Nigeria and the Straits Settlements had not been well prepared, but were of promising quality. The fibre of *Musa malaccensis* from the latter country was regarded as a useful fibre, and if carefully prepared and of good strength would be worth £41-£42 per ton. Four samples of wild banana fibre from British East Africa were of good quality and value, two of them being considered worth £45 to £46 and £48 to £50 per ton, respectively. These products were comparable with the best grades of Manila hemp, and would be readily saleable for rope making.

1907.—Specimens of plantain and banana fibres from the Gold Coast were of good quality but rather weaker than Manila hemp, and were valued at £40 and £36 per ton, respectively. A sample of native fibre from Rhodesia, evidently derived from *Musa* sp., was short and rather lacking in lustre, but if improved in these respects would probably be able to compete with fair or good Manila hemp at about £44 per ton. Samples of less value were received for examination from Lagos and Ceylon.

"Aloe" Fibres (Agave, Sansevieria and Furcraea).

1906.—Among the fibres of this class, attention was principally directed to the "bowstring" hems (*Sansevieria* spp.), samples of which were received for examination from British East Africa, Sierra Leone, Lagos and the Sudan. Attempts have been made during the last two or three years

to develop a fibre industry in British East Africa, an account of which has been given in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." (1907, V, 24.) The fibre which is being produced in the greatest quantity is that of *S. Ehrenbergii*. Specimens of this fibre which were examined showed that the product was of a useful character, and worth £24 to £28 per ton. This fibre shows a marked variation in the diameter of the strands or filaments, the fibre from the interior of the leaf being fine whilst that from the more external parts is very coarse. A sample of *S. Volkensii* was valued at £28 per ton, and was regarded as readily saleable. Samples of *S. guineensis* were valued at about the same prices as those of *S. Ehrenbergii*, but would have been worth a good deal more if they had been more carefully prepared.

Some excellent specimens of *S. guineensis* fibre were received from Sierra Leone, and were valued at from £28 to £40 per ton. Two small specimens of the fibre of the same plant were forwarded from Lagos, but were badly prepared and of uneven length. It was evident, however, that by careful preparation a product of useful quality could be obtained. Two samples of *S. guineensis* fibre from the Sudan were imperfectly prepared, but were sufficient to indicate that with greater care a good fibre could be obtained.

Other fibres of this class included specimens of Sisal hemp from Sierra Leone, *Furcræa* fibre from Sierra Leone, Southern Rhodesia and St. Helena, and *Dracæna* fibre from Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast.

1907.—A specimen of *Sansevieria guineensis* fibre from Sierra Leone was found to be well cleaned, of good colour and worth £31 per ton. Samples of the fibre of *S. Ehrenbergii*, *S. sulcata*, *S. Stuckyi*, and of an unknown species from British East Africa were examined, that of *S. sulcata* being valued at £25 to £30 per ton. *Sansevieria* fibres were also received from Rhodesia and Uganda.

Samples of *Furcræa gigantea* fibre (Mauritius hemp) were received from India, Natal, British East Africa, Uganda and St. Helena. The specimen from India was of somewhat uneven length and colour and was valued at £27 to £28 per ton, whilst that from Natal was of good colour but rather weak. The East African and Uganda samples were incompletely prepared, and worth £22 to £23, and £25 to £25 10s. per ton, respectively. The specimen from St. Helena was of unusual length (average six feet), and was worth £25 to £27 per ton, but would have been more valuable if better cleaned.

A specimen of *Agave rigida* fibre (sisal hemp) from India was of excellent length and colour and of fair strength, and was regarded as worth about £36 to £38 per ton. A sample of this fibre from British East Africa was valued at the current price of Mexican sisal (£34 to £35 per ton). A specimen of the fibre of *Agave americana* from India was of pro-

missing quality but somewhat imperfectly cleaned, and was valued at £27 to £28 per ton.

At the end of the year, a sample of *Sansevieria* fibre from Sierra Leone remained under investigation.

New Zealand Hemp (Phormium tenax).

1906.—A sample of *Phormium tenax* fibre from St. Helena was examined and found to be of good length and colour and of fair strength. The product had been somewhat injured in the process of preparation, some of the strands having been crushed and weakened, but otherwise was of excellent quality and readily saleable.

1907.—Phormium fibre from St. Helena was further examined in connection with the question as to the creation of a local "flax" industry. The specimen had not been very well cleaned, and was about equal to "fair" New Zealand hemp, and worth about £32 to £33 per ton. Circumstances being apparently favourable to the establishment of such an industry, it was recommended that an expert from New Zealand should be asked to proceed to St. Helena and advise as to the steps which should be taken.

Samples were also received for examination from Ireland and Buenos Ayres. An article on "New Zealand Hemp" was published in the "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute." (1907, V, 36.)

Paper-making Fibres.

1906.—A consignment of the sheathing leaves of *Musa textilis* from India was examined and found to be suitable for paper making locally, but probably not of sufficient value to export for the purpose. Other products examined were the leaves of *Hypoxis rigidula* and the stem of *Vellozia retinervis* from the Transvaal, and the fibre of *Broussonetia papyrifera* from Turkey.

1907.—Specimens of a native grass and palm leaf from North-Western Rhodesia, of a bulrush and "palmiet" plant from Cape Colony, and of "Napunti" bark from Sierra Leone were examined with the object of ascertaining their value for paper making. It is doubtful whether any of these materials could form the basis of a remunerative paper-making industry, under present conditions.

Flosses or Silk-Cottons.

1906.—Samples of "kapok," the seed-hairs of *Eriodendron anfractuosum*, were received from Madras, Lagos and Madagascar. The Indian product was of good quality, but contained a good deal of seed. It was regarded as worth 4½d. a pound, but if free from seed would have been worth 6½d.

per pound. The specimen from Lagos was inferior in colour to ordinary commercial "kapok," whilst the Madagascar sample was equal to a standard specimen from Java. A specimen of a silk-cotton (probably derived from *Bombax buonopozense*) from Uganda was equal in quality to a standard sample of "kapok." Among other specimens examined may be mentioned the floss of *Funtumia elastica* from West Africa. This product, however, is of little value, and is regarded as nominally worth about 1d. per pound.

1907.—A specimen of "kapok" from Mauritius was of inferior colour and lustre, and was valued at 4½d. to 5d. per pound. Other flosses examined included those of *Bombax malabaricum* from Burma and *Calotropis* spp. from India and from Fernando Po.

Ramie Fibre (Boehmeria nivea).

1906.—Specimens of ramie were received for examination from Cyprus, North-Eastern Rhodesia, East Africa Protectorate and Argentina. The Cyprus sample consisted of ribbons of unprepared bark, nominally worth about £10 per ton. The samples from Rhodesia were of promising quality, but were not suitably prepared for the market. Those from the East Africa Protectorate consisted of six specimens of flasse prepared by different processes and were examined particularly with reference to their relative strength.

In view of the uncertain market for this material it has been recommended that cultivation should be undertaken with caution.

1907.—Specimens of ramie were examined from Natal, Mozambique and Buenos Ayres. The Natal product consisted of ribbons of bark; it was of good quality, but was not in the condition in which ramie is usually met with in the market. A sample from British East Africa was under investigation at the end of the year.

Flax.

1906.—A sample of flax straw from the Transvaal was examined and found to be short, much branched and of no value as a source of flax fibre. Several samples from Broussa, Turkey, were also examined.

1907.—Samples were received from the Orange River Colony, East Africa Protectorate, Cyprus and Bengal. The sample from the Orange River Colony had been over-retted. It was of poor quality and was regarded as of no commercial value. The East African flax had also been over-retted, but was stated to be quite saleable as "codilla," and worth about £26 per ton. The samples received from Cyprus had not been perfectly prepared. The product was therefore regarded as worth only about £10 per ton. The Bengal flax had not

been retted, but it appeared to be of very promising quality and likely to repay cultivation.

A further sample from Cyprus was under investigation at the close of the year.

Silk.

1906.—A sample of silk waste from Broussa, Turkey, was found to consist of the inner portions of cocoons; it was found that the material would be suitable for the manufacture of "spun silk."

1907.—Samples of silk from Uganda, the Transvaal and Ceylon, were reported on.

Several samples of a new variety of silk received from Uganda consisted of nests or colonies of cocoons formed by silk-worms of *Anaphe* sp. The material obtained from the cocoons and from their silky coverings was found to be suitable for the manufacture of spun silk. The cocoons were too small and too loosely constructed to be suitable for reeling.

Two samples of cocoons spun by the true silk-worm, *Bombyx* spp., from the Transvaal were of very promising quality, and were regarded as being worth 3s. to 3s. 6d. per pound.

A sample of Tussur silk cocoons probably spun by the silk-worm, *Attacus ricini*, were received from Ceylon. The silk was of good quality and worth about 1s. per pound.

At the end of 1907, samples of a new variety of silk of *Anaphe* sp. from Northern and Southern Nigeria were under examination.

Wool.

1906.—Three samples of wool "tops" were received from the Bradford Technical College and were reported on with special reference to their comparative strengths.

Five samples of "greasy" wool from British East Africa were found to be somewhat inferior in quality and to contain a large amount of "kemps" or dead hairs.

Miscellaneous Fibres.

1906.—A number of fibrous products were received for examination from the Transvaal, including the bulb of *Buphane disticha* (the "gift bol"), the leaves of *Sansevieria ethiopica*, which contain a fine but rather short fibre, the bark of *Asclepias fruticosa*, the bulb of *Hypoxis rigidula*, and the leaves of *Helichrysum* sp.

A fibrous material derived from a marine plant, *Posidonia australis*, from South Australia, and a sample of *Raphia* bass from Sierra Leone were examined. Specimens of coir fibre from Sierra Leone were reported on, and a memorandum was

forwarded to the Colony describing the methods of preparing the fibre for export.

1907.—A small consignment of the fibre of *Asclepias semilunata* ("Kafumba" fibre) was received from Uganda. This product was of excellent quality and strength and contained a very large proportion of cellulose (88·1 per cent.). It would be useful for the manufacture of rope and twine and would be readily saleable in large quantities at about £28 to £33 per ton.

Fibrous material from *Securidaca longepedunculata* ("Buaze" fibre) of Nyasaland was investigated. The product was found to contain a useful fibre, which, however, could not easily be freed from the gummy matters associated with it. It was recommended that attempts should be made locally to extract the fibre in a clean condition from the fresh material.

Other samples examined included pineapple fibre from the Gold Coast, bark-cloth from Uganda, various fibrous materials from Southern Nigeria, *Orthanthera viminea* from India, the bark fibre of *Acacia cyanophylla* from Natal, and *Xanthorrhœa Preissii* from Western Australia.

RUBBER.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples under investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
India	2	India	6	India	3
Federated Malay States.	17	Federated Malay States.	1	Sierra Leone ...	10
Sierra Leone ...	13	Gambia	1	Gold Coast	11
Gold Coast	7	Sierra Leone ...	9	Southern Nigeria	5
Southern Nigeria	2	Gold Coast	26	Portuguese East Africa.	15
Senegal	1	Southern Nigeria	3	Rhodesia... ..	1
Liberia	3	Northern Nigeria	1	Jamaica	1
Sudan	15	Portuguese West Africa.	1	British Guiana ...	20
Abyssinia	4	East Africa Pro- tectorate.	3		
Uganda	5	Portuguese East Africa.	2		
Portuguese East Africa.	1	Natal	2		
Natal	2	Cape Colony ...	4		
Rhodesia	1	Transvaal	3		
		Rhodesia	2		
		Trinidad... ..	25		
		Formosa... ..	1		
Total... ..	73	Total... ..	90	Total... ..	66

A large number of specimens of rubber have been investigated in order to determine their intrinsic and commercial

value, to throw light on obscure points connected with their preparation, or as a basis for deciding questions as to the cultivation of the plants which furnish them.

1906.

India.—Samples of the rubber of *Cryptostegia grandiflora* and *Parameria glandulifera* were reported on during 1906.

The *Cryptostegia grandiflora* rubber was forwarded from Bombay, where the plant is stated to be very common. Specimens of this rubber from Madras and the Central Provinces had been previously examined at the Imperial Institute. The rubber from Bombay was found to be of very fair quality, although contaminated with earthy matter. There is no doubt that carefully prepared consignments of the rubber would be readily saleable (see "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1907, V., 371).

The *Parameria glandulifera* rubber from the Andaman Islands was briefly referred to in the report for 1905 in connection with the similar samples from Burma. The rubber was of good quality judging from its chemical composition, but its value was depreciated by the external stickiness of the balls, probably caused by overheating during preparation or in transit (see "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1907, V., 14).

Federated Malay States.—Sixteen samples of Para rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*) which had been specially prepared in the Federated Malay States were reported on. The rubbers showed a very high degree of purity, the percentages of true caoutchouc ranging from 92.64 to 96.35 per cent. Four of the specimens contained over 95 per cent. of caoutchouc and seven others between 94 and 95 per cent. of this constituent (see "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1907, V., 246).

A specimen of diseased bark from Para trees in the Federated Malay States was also examined, and suggestions were made for further action on the spot.

Sierra Leone.—The rubbers from this Colony reported on in 1906 included "Jenje," "Gbogboi," and "Njawa" rubbers, and ten samples of *Landolphia* rubbers.

The "Jenje" rubber is derived from a vine known as Poré, which has not been identified with certainty. From botanical specimens accompanying the rubber, the plant appears to be a *Landolphia* very near *L. owariensis*, Beauv. The rubber is of good quality.

The "Gbogboi" rubber was obtained in the Panguma district, and was of considerable interest, as the leaves which accompanied the specimen appeared to belong to *Funtumia elastica*, Stapf, the well-known Lagos rubber tree, the presence of which in Sierra Leone had not been definitely recorded. This determination has since been confirmed, and

the fact that *Funtumia elastica* is indigenous in the country is of considerable importance in connection with rubber planting in Sierra Leone. The sample of "Gbogboi" rubber submitted was rather sticky and contaminated with vegetable impurities, but carefully prepared specimens would be of good quality and readily saleable at satisfactory prices.

The "Njawa" rubber is of inferior quality on account of the large amount of resin (22 per cent.) which it contains. The botanical source of this rubber is uncertain (*see* "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1906, IV., 29).

Ten samples of Landolphia rubber were specially prepared by the Curator of the Botanic Station in Sierra Leone in order to demonstrate that the quality of the rubber could be greatly enhanced by the adoption of improved methods of preparation.

The results of the chemical examination and valuation of the samples show that the rubber prepared in sheets or "biscuits" will realise much better prices than the same rubber made into balls by the usual native process. This conclusion confirms the results of similar experiments on the preparation of Landolphia rubber which have been conducted in other parts of tropical Africa.

Gold Coast.—The seven samples from the Gold Coast which were reported on in 1906 included specimens of the following rubbers: (1) Ceara rubber from *Manihot Glaziovii*; (2) Assam rubber from *Ficus elastica*; (3) "Memleku" rubber from *Ficus Vogelii*; "Krepi" ball rubber from *Landolphia owariensis*; and (5) Ofruntum rubber from *Funtumia elastica* (*see* "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1907, V, 248).

The Ceara rubber was in the form of "scrap," and was found to be of very fair quality.

The *Ficus elastica* rubber, which was also in the form of "scrap," contained a little more resin than is desirable (11.6 per cent.), but was otherwise of good quality.

The "Memleku" rubber from *Ficus Vogelii* is of very resinous character, the two samples examined containing 44 per cent. of this constituent. The rubber is, therefore, of inferior quality, and would only realise a comparatively low price.

The "Krepi ball" rubber from *Landolphia owariensis* was of very good quality, containing over 91 per cent. of caoutchouc and only small quantities of resin and proteids.

The two samples of "Ofruntum" rubber from *Funtumia elastica*, prepared in "biscuit" form, were both of good quality, and the valuation obtained for one of them was almost equal to the current quotation for fine hard Para rubber from South America.

Southern Nigeria.—A specimen of *Funtumia elastica* rubber was examined and found to be of very fair quality, though capable of considerable improvement by better preparation.

Botanical specimens of a rubber plant were also submitted for identification.

Senegal.—A sample of *Landolphia Heudelotii* rubber prepared at the Rubber School of Banfora, Upper Senegal-Niger, was received from His Majesty's Consul-General at Dakar through the Foreign Office. The rubber was very well prepared and of good quality.

Liberia.—Three "lump" rubbers from Liberia were examined. They were found to be satisfactory in composition and in physical properties, but possessed very objectionable odours. These rubbers could be greatly improved by more careful preparation.

Sudan.—In continuation of the work in connection with the rubber resources of the Bahr-el-Ghazal, 15 samples of rubber from that province were reported on during 1906. The specimens represented the rubber of *Landolphia owariensis* var. *tomentella* prepared in "biscuits," cakes, and scrap. The results of the examination fully confirm the high opinion which had been previously formed of the quality of this rubber. Some of the "biscuits" were valued by brokers in London at the same price as Para "biscuits" from Ceylon and the Federated Malay States.

Abyssinia.—Four samples of rubber from Abyssinia were received through the Sudan Government. The rubber is of very fair quality, although the percentage of resin in all the samples is a little high; if carefully prepared it would be readily saleable. This rubber is derived from a species of *Landolphia* which has not been definitely identified.

Uganda.—Specimens of the rubbers of *Funtumia elastica*, *Clitandra orientalis* and *Landolphia Dawei* from this Protectorate were reported on in 1906 (see "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1906, IV, 202).

All the samples were well prepared and exhibited good physical properties. In consequence high valuations were obtained, the prices quoted being only a little below the current values of Para "biscuits" from Ceylon and the Federated Malay States.

Portuguese East Africa.—A small specimen of rubber, described as Ceara, from this territory was examined and found to be of good quality.

Natal.—A small consignment of "Ibungu" rubber derived from *Landolphia Kirkii* in Natal was received, and after analysis which showed it to be of good quality, it was sold in London at a very satisfactory price.

A succulent root supposed to contain rubber was also examined.

Rhodesia.—A rubber-like material, the botanical source of which was unknown, was examined and found to be very resinous and of little commercial value.

1907.

India.—The rubbers from India reported on in 1907 included specimens derived from (1) *Ficus elastica*, (2) *Hevea brasiliensis*, (3) a climber from Central India, and (4) a species of *Euphorbia*.

Two samples of *Ficus elastica* rubber from the Kulsi plantation were both found to contain a rather high percentage of resin. One of them was otherwise of satisfactory quality, and consignments of similar character would be readily saleable; the other specimen was soft, sticky and rather weak, and would therefore be difficult to sell.

A specimen of *Ficus elastica* rubber collected by natives in Northern Arakan was also received. It was very impure, and a better specimen has been requested.

An excellent sample of Para rubber was forwarded from the Mergui plantation. It contained 95·2 per cent. of caoutchouc, 1·6 per cent. of resin, and 2·4 per cent. of proteid. In composition and physical properties this rubber compares favourably with Para rubber from Ceylon and the Federated Malay States (see "Bulletin of the Imperial Institute," 1907, V, 371).

The rubber obtained from a climbing plant in Central India was found to contain rather high percentages of resin and mineral impurity. This rubber may possibly have been derived from *Cryptostegia grandiflora*.

A resinous material, possibly derived from a species of *Euphorbia*, was examined and found to be of no commercial value.

Federated Malay States.—A special sample of gutta percha prepared by tapping the standing trees was forwarded by the Conservator of Forests in the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements. The material was found to be of excellent quality, containing a higher percentage of "gutta" than is usually present in the better grades of gutta percha which appear in commerce.

Gambia.—A specimen of *Ficus Vogelii* rubber from this Colony was found to contain less resin than samples from other parts of West Africa previously examined at the Imperial Institute. A larger sample of the rubber has been requested for technical trials.

Sierra Leone.—Five samples of rubber collected in the Gola Forest were examined. Four of them were of very promising quality, and if carefully collected and prepared the rubber

would command satisfactory prices in the market. The fifth specimen contained a large amount of resin, which would reduce its value. No information is available regarding the identity of the plants from which these rubbers were obtained, but botanical specimens have been asked for.

Further samples of *Landolphia* rubbers and of *Funtumia elastica* rubber were also submitted.

A comparative examination of *Landolphia* rubber prepared (1) in sheets by an improved method, and (2) in balls by the ordinary native process, again showed that the former would realise the best price.

Two specimens of *Funtumia elastica* rubber in biscuits were examined and shown to be of good quality, containing 90·5 and 91·2 per cent. of caoutchouc, respectively.

Gold Coast.—A series of 21 samples of *Funtumia elastica* rubber prepared in "biscuit" form was forwarded from Ashanti. With two exceptions the specimens were of very promising quality, and the valuations obtained showed that the rubber in this form would realise much higher prices than the ordinary native lump rubber.

Four other samples of *Funtumia* rubber, and one specimen of *Ficus Vogelii* were also dealt with during the year.

The *Funtumia* rubber was prepared by different methods, including the use of an infusion of the leaves of *Bauhinia reticulata* for coagulating the latex. They were all of good quality, and very satisfactory valuations were obtained for them. The use of a hot infusion of the leaves of *Bauhinia reticulata* for coagulating *Funtumia* latex appears to give very good results. The infusion is acid and contains tannin, of which 8 per cent. is present in the dry leaves. It seems probable that the tannin is the active coagulating agent as it has been found that solutions of gallo-tannic acid and infusions of astringent materials such as the pods of *Acacia arabica* exert a similar action. This method of preparing *Funtumia* rubber promises to yield very satisfactory results, as it entirely obviates the necessity of applying heat directly to the latex.

The *Ficus Vogelii* rubber examined contained 35·6 per cent. of resin, which is rather less than was found in the two previous specimens from the Colony. A small consignment of this rubber has been asked for so that technical trials can be made.

Southern Nigeria.—Two samples of *Funtumia* rubber were forwarded but proved to be too small for chemical examination. Very satisfactory valuations were, however, obtained.

The latex from a species of *Mimusops*, probably *M. Djave*, has been investigated. The product obtained on coagulation is of resinous character and would have very little commercial value.

Northern Nigeria.—A sample of "Kano rubber," derived from *Ficus platyphylla* was forwarded from Katsena. It was found to be similar in composition to previous samples.

East Africa Protectorate.—A specimen of rubber obtained from a tree growing on the Shimba Hills was examined and found to be of very fair quality. The rubber could be improved by careful preparation as the sample contained a considerable amount of vegetable impurity. The tree yielding this rubber has since been identified as *Mascarenhasia elastica* K. Schum.

The rubber obtained from a vine growing in the country to the South of Kericho was of very fair quality, although the percentage of resin (11.6) was a little high. The identity of the vine which furnished this rubber is not known, but botanical specimens have been asked for with a view to its determination.

A small quantity of latex, stated to be derived from a species of Cactus growing in the Protectorate, was examined, but the product was very resinous and unsuitable for technical use.

Portuguese East Africa.—Samples of latex and of the coagulated product obtained from it were forwarded by His Majesty's Consul at Beira. The material was thought to resemble "gutta-percha" in properties, but no information was available regarding either its botanical or exact geographical source. The product consisted largely of resin and would have little, if any, commercial value.

South Africa.—A number of specimens of the latex and coagulated product obtained from different species of Euphorbia have been forwarded from Natal, Cape Colony, the Transvaal and Rhodesia. All the samples have proved to be of resinous character, and on that account it would be difficult to utilise them for any important technical purpose. The commercial value of such material would only be very low and would probably not repay the cost of collection and transit.

Trinidad.—Twenty-five samples of rubber from Trinidad have been examined. The collection included specimens of the rubbers of *Hevea brasiliensis* (Para rubber), *Funtumia elastica* and *Castilloa elastica* obtained from trees growing on lands belonging to the Botanical Department or on private estates.

The Para rubber is of very good quality, two specimens in "biscuit" form containing 94.9 and 92.7 per cent. of caoutchouc, respectively. Very satisfactory valuations were obtained for the samples.

Several of the samples of Castilloa rubber were of inferior quality on account of the large amounts of resin present. Two specimens from 7½-year old trees growing on lands

belonging to the Botanical Department contained 52 and 57 per cent. of resin, respectively. These percentages are very high for the product of 7½-year old trees, but it may be noted that the trees in question are stated to be of small growth owing to the fact that they have been outgrown by surrounding Para trees.

The *Castilloa* rubber from private estates was less resinous on the whole than the above specimens, for although one sample contained 37·2 per cent. of resin the amount present in the remaining specimens ranged from 15·6 to 23 per cent. Even these latter percentages are much higher than those usually recorded for *Castilloa* rubber from adult trees. It will be of interest to see whether the average percentage of resin in the *Castilloa* rubber obtained in Trinidad will diminish as the trees become older.

The single specimen of *Funtumia* rubber was of very fair quality.

In addition to the above specimens, samples of *Loranthus* rubber and of balata from Venezuela were included in the collection.

Formosa.—A specimen of the rubber obtained from a vine discovered in Formosa, and identified as *Ecdysanthera utilis*, was forwarded by His Majesty's Consul at Tamsui. It was found to be of good quality so far as chemical composition is concerned, and if carefully prepared would be readily saleable at satisfactory prices.

TIMBERS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Uganda	18	Southern Nigeria	26	Gambia	2
Foreign countries	1	Uganda	52	Sierra Leone ...	1
		East Indies ...	2	Rhodesia... ..	1
		West Indies ...	1	Sudan	10
				Mauritius	12
Total... ..	19	Total... ..	81	Total... ..	26

Uganda.—The 70 timbers received from this Protectorate in 1906 and 1907 were representative of the materials obtainable in the Mabira or Chagwe Forest and other parts of the Protectorate recently explored by the Forestry Officer of Uganda, and included a number of interesting woods, such as "African Blackwood" and several timbers which would be saleable as mahogany.

Southern Nigeria.—This set of 26 samples represented some of the chief woods obtainable in this Colony, and information was supplied regarding their working qualities and mechanical properties. A number of these timbers will be suitable for export to the United Kingdom if the cost of collection and transport does not prove to be too high.

East and West Indies.—The three timbers included in this group were samples of woods which were stated to cause skin diseases in operatives working with them. All three woods were found to contain interesting substances, which are still under investigation.

The samples awaiting investigation at the end of the year included mahogany and rosewood from the Gambia and a number of interesting hard woods from Mauritius and the Sudan.

The timbers received have been tested for their working qualities, and when suitable and sufficiently large specimens were received the timbers were also submitted to mechanical tests, so that their strength and other physical characters might be ascertained.

OILS AND OIL-SEEDS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Sudan	13	Sudan	8	Sudan	1
Uganda	1	British East Africa	1	Uganda	4
Rhodesia	1	Rhodesia... ..	9	Rhodesia... ..	2
Cape Colony ...	1	Gold Coast ...	1	Sierra Leone ...	3
Southern Nigeria...	3	Sierra Leone ...	1	Southern Nigeria	3
Northern Nigeria...	3	Southern Nigeria	7	Northern Nigeria	2
Hong Kong ...	2	Northern Nigeria	3	India	6
West Indies ...	1	India	4	Foreign countries	2
United Kingdom...	1	Ceylon	1		
		Source unknown	1		
Total... ..	26	Total... ..	36	Total... ..	23

In view of the scarcity of oils and fats suitable for soap manufacture during 1906-7, special attention was directed to the examination of vegetable oils.

1906.

Cape Berry Wax.—A sample of Cape berry wax, derived from a species of *Myrica*, was received for examination from Cape Colony. The properties of this substance indicated that it might be utilised for soap-making and possibly for the

manufacture of candles. The product was regarded as worth about 25s. per cwt., and a trial consignment was requested.

"Ikpan" Seeds.—A sample of "Ikpan" seeds, probably derived from a plant of the *Cucurbitaceae*, was received from Southern Nigeria. These seeds were found to yield an oil, which would probably be useful as an edible product, whilst the cake left after expressing the oil would be of value as a cattle food.

Seeds of Aleurites spp.—Specimens of the seeds of *Aleurites triloba* and *A. Fordii* were forwarded for examination from Hong Kong. The kernels of the former species were found to contain 60·8 per cent. of an oil which could be employed for the manufacture of soft soap or as a substitute for linseed oil for paints and varnishes. The kernels were valued at £12 to £13 per ton. It was recommended that the shells should be removed from the seeds and the kernels only exported.

The seeds of *A. Fordii* yielded an oil which resembled the Tung oil of commerce.

Seeds of Carapa grandiflora. These seeds from Uganda were examined and found to contain an oil which would probably be useful for soap-making and worth about £22 per ton. A consignment was requested for technical trials.

Castor Oil Seed.—Seven samples of castor oil seed from the Sudan were found to be of average quality and worth £11 to £12 per ton.

Beeswax.—Three samples of beeswax were received from the Sudan. One was of rather dark colour and worth about £6 per cwt. The others were somewhat dirty, but when purified by melting and straining, the product was in each case regarded as worth £7 per cwt.

Among other products examined may be mentioned samples of the oil and oil-cake obtained from the seeds of *Moringa pterygosperma* from Northern Nigeria, ground nuts, sesame and linseed from the Sudan, palm kernels from Southern Rhodesia, seeds of *Thevetia neriifolia* from Southern Nigeria, and ground nuts and oil from Northern Nigeria.

1907.

Shea Nuts and Butter.—Four samples of shea nuts, the seeds of *Butyrospermum Parkii*, and one sample of the fat (known as "Shea butter") extracted from these seeds were received for examination from Southern Nigeria. Shea butter could be used for the manufacture of candles or soap, although it would be more suitable for the latter purpose if a variety can be found nearly free from unsaponifiable matter. It was valued at £27 5s. to £27 10s. per ton.

A specimen of shea butter ("Lulu" oil) from the Sudan was also examined.

Seeds of Mimosa Djave.—A consignment of these seeds was received from Southern Nigeria. They were found to contain a fat which resembles shea butter and would have similar commercial applications.

Seeds of Ricinodendron sp.—A sample of "Nsa-sana" seeds, probably derived from a species of *Ricinodendron*, were received from Southern Nigeria, and were found to contain a quick drying oil which could be utilised as a substitute for Tung oil.

Seeds of Carapa guineensis.—The seeds of *Carapa guineensis* from the Gold Coast were examined and found to yield an oil which would be useful for soap-making, and would probably realise from £22 to £30 per ton.

Castor Oil Seeds.—Six samples of castor oil seed were received from the Sudan, three from the Red Sea Province, two from the Bahr-el-Ghazal and one from the Kassala Province. One of the samples from the Red Sea Province was worth about 5s. per ton in advance of Bombay castor seed, one was dirty and almost unsaleable, and all the other samples were of about the average quality of Bombay castor seed.

Eight samples of castor oil seed from Southern Rhodesia were of good quality and worth, on the average, £12 per ton.

A memorandum on the cultivation of the castor oil plant, the collection of the seed, and the preparation and utilisation of the oil was forwarded to Cape Colony in reply to a request for information on the subject.

Oil from the Seeds of Lophira alata.—Samples of this oil were received from Sierra Leone and also from the Sudan. Both specimens contained a quantity of unsaponifiable matter which would interfere with the use of the product for soap-making. It was considered probable, however, that this undesirable substance might not be removed from the seeds by the methods used for expressing the oil on a manufacturing scale, in which case the oil would be worth about £20 per ton.

Several other products were examined including the oils of *Calophyllum tomentosum* and *Amoora Rohituka* from India, "Margose" seed and seeds of *Melia Azadirachta* from India, fruits of *Pycnanthus* sp. from Northern Nigeria, a sample of beeswax from Rhodesia and a sample of sesame seed from Southern Rhodesia.

Among the various products remaining under investigation at the end of the year may be mentioned two samples of a variety of shea nuts from Sierra Leone, a specimen of castor oil seed from Rhodesia, dika nuts from Southern Nigeria, mafoureira nuts from Mozambique, and raphia wax from Madagascar.

VOLATILE OILS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Cyprus	2	Cyprus	1	Cyprus	3
Federated Malay States.	2	Seychelles	6	Uganda	1
Seychelles... ..	10	Fiji	2	India	3
		Sierra Leone	1		
Total... ..	14	Total... ..	10	Total... ..	7

Cyprus.—A sample of the origanum oil produced in Cyprus in 1905 was found to be of good quality and similar to the 1904 crop. A consignment of the oil was subsequently sold at 3s. per pound. A sample of Marjoram herb was also received for examination.

Seychelles.—Ten specimens of volatile oils were received from the Seychelles, including Bigarade, Seychelles lemon-grass, Ceylon lemongrass, Ylang ylang, Mozambique orange, Ceylon citronella and cananga oils. The samples were too small for more than a preliminary examination. The results, however, were very promising and were considered to justify the preparation of larger quantities of the oils with a view to testing the market.

Federated Malay States.—Samples of patchouli and citronella oils from the Federated Malay States were examined. Both were of good quality and saleable at 9d. per oz. and 1s. 10d. per lb. respectively.

1907.

Cyprus.—A sample of geranium oil was received from Cyprus, but was insufficient for complete examination. A memorandum was forwarded on the cultivation and collection of peppermint and geranium plants and the methods of distilling the oils from them.

Seychelles.—Two samples of citronella oil and two samples of lemongrass oil were examined. The citronella oils were of good quality and regarded as worth 1s. 10d. to 2s. per pound. The lemongrass oils were of rather low grade.

A specimen of clove leaf oil was received for examination. This product possessed an odour somewhat different from that of ordinary clove oil, but contained 87 per cent. of eugenol, and was valued at 4s. to 4s. 6d. per pound. It was pointed out that the production of this essential oil would appear to afford good prospects in the Seychelles.

A sample of cinnamon bark oil was found to differ considerably from that prepared from Ceylon cinnamon bark, and to

contain less than one-third of the usual amount of cinnamic aldehyde (the chief constituent). It was suggested that this peculiarity may have been due to faulty preparation.

Fiji.—Two small samples of the volatile oil of *Cinnamomum pedatinervium* bark were examined and found to be similar to that examined previously. This product would be useful for perfuming soaps, and would probably realise about 1s. 6d. per pound.

Sierra Leone.—A consignment of the leaves of *Ocimum viride* was received for examination. This product yields a volatile oil which would doubtless be of value on account of the large proportion (32 per cent.) of thymol which it contains, and it is probable that the residue left after removing the thymol could be used for scenting soaps.

A request was received from a firm of merchants working in Southern Nigeria for information with reference to lemongrass oil. In reply, a memorandum was forwarded giving a general description of the cultivation of lemongrass and the process of obtaining the oil.

At the close of 1907, the following materials remained under investigation: the turpentine oil of *Pinus longifolia* from India, Origanum oil from Cyprus, and the roots of *Chlorocodon* sp. from Uganda.

FOODSTUFFS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Gold Coast ...	7	Gambia ...	2	Southern Nigeria	3
Transvaal... ..	1	Gold Coast ...	2	Natal ...	17
Somaliland ...	1	Southern Nigeria	14	Rhodesia... ..	1
Sudan ...	12	Natal ...	1	Trinidad... ..	2
Seychelles... ..	2	Uganda ...	1		
India ...	14	Sudan ...	4		
Ceylon ...	2	Ceylon ...	1		
Hong Kong ...	1	British Honduras	1		
United Kingdom...	1	United Kingdom	38		
Total... ..	41	Total... ..	64	Total... ..	23

The samples included under this heading belong to comparatively few groups, which may conveniently be discussed separately.

Tea.

In view of the statement frequently made that Chinese tea is less harmful in use than Indian tea, a careful comparison was made at the request of the India Office, of typical samples

of these two classes of teas. The results show that the Indian teas are richer in the stimulant alkaloid caffeine than Chinese teas, and yield more extractive matter to water; but they also contain more tannin.

This enquiry was also extended to Natal teas, typical samples of which were forwarded by the Natal Government at the close of the South African Products Exhibition held recently in London. The Natal teas proved similar to Indian teas on the whole, but the samples from one estate were found to contain rather less tannin than average Indian tea.

The sample from Hong Kong was tea from plantations in the New Territory. It was of poor quality and not suitable for import into this country.

Samples of a substitute for tea prepared in Ceylon were also examined. These consisted of the dried leaves of *Cassia auriculata* and contained only a trace of caffeine, so that they are unsuitable for use in place of tea.

Coffee.

A number of samples of coffee from Abyssinia as imported into the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan were received from the Government of the Sudan for examination, and samples of coffee were also received from the Transvaal and India. The last mentioned samples were from an estate in Mysore and represented the products obtained before and after manuring the land on which the plants were grown. The effects of the manuring were a slight increase in the amount of caffeine in the berries, and an increase both in the size of the berries and in their density.

Cocoa.

An unusual amount of interest has been aroused in this product, during recent years, owing to the very high prices which have prevailed, and consequently a considerable number of samples of cocoa both from Colonies which have not hitherto produced this material in quantity, and from Colonies in which the industry has long been established, have been received for examination and report.

Cocoa cultivation is being established on a large scale in the Gold Coast, and this article is now one of the most important exports. The product exported is, however, of inferior quality, the beans being small and usually incompletely fermented. Further the industry is said to be hampered to some extent by certain trading difficulties. Both these sides of the problem, viz., the agricultural and economic, have received attention during the two years under review, and several reports and recommendations have been made.

In 1906 a series of samples of cocoa prepared in the Botanic Gardens at Aburi were received for examination. These had

been fermented in various ways and for different periods of time. They were subjected to complete chemical examination, and from the results obtained it was possible to draw up a series of recommendations for the improvement of the cultivation and preparation of Gold Coast cocoa.

During 1907 the Government of the Colony desired to obtain exact information as to the prices which the better classes of Gold Coast cocoa would secure when sold in the United Kingdom, so that if necessary steps might be taken to improve the local trade conditions under which the same price is paid for cocoa of all grades of quality. In consultation with the Imperial Institute, two consignments of selected cocoa were sold in Liverpool. These realised unusually good prices, ranging from 65 to 69 shillings per cwt. So far, Gold Coast cocoa has been utilized on the Continent and has not attracted much attention from manufacturers in this country, but as the result of the action recorded above, several British firms have begun to take an interest in this product, and it seems likely that in the near future a larger proportion of this cocoa will be used in this country.

Interesting samples of cocoa produced experimentally in British Honduras and Uganda were received during 1907. Both of these proved to be of good quality, and the commercial experts who examined the samples regarded them as both readily saleable in this country. In Uganda especially there seems to be an important future for cocoa cultivation.

FOOD GRAINS.

The samples examined included wheat, barley, rice, millet, guinea corn, and maize, and were received for the most part from the Sudan and the West African Colonies. A memorandum on the cultivation, preparation, and marketing of maize was prepared for the Government of Southern Nigeria, and similar information regarding wheat was supplied to the Government of the Sudan.

A material of special interest was the "yebb" or "yeheb" nuts received from Somaliland. As the seeds were apparently unknown they were submitted to Kew for botanical identification. On examination these seeds proved to be rich in carbohydrates, oil, and proteids, so that they form in themselves a complete food. It is stated that yeheb nuts have formed almost the sole food of the Somalis during recent famine years. If further investigations should prove that the seeds are readily digestible, the plant (*Cordeauxia edulis*, Hemsley) may prove to be of value in other countries.

Miscellaneous Food Products.

These included "cocoa nut water" from Ceylon, which was examined with a view to ascertaining if it could be used as

a source of sugar; native sugar cane from Rhodesia, which is still under investigation; alcohol prepared in Ceylon from the cashew nut, and rum obtained from sugar residues in Natal.

A large number of samples of English cured hams have been examined during 1907 for the Board of Trade and the Foreign Office, in connection with the new regulations with reference to the importation of hams into certain foreign countries.

SPICES, &c.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Sierra Leone ...	4	Sierra Leone ...	3	Seychelles ...	3
Gold Coast ...	1	Sudan ...	6		
Southern Nigeria...	1	Federated Malay	1		
Sudan ...	7	States.			
		Mauritius ...	1		
Total... ..	13	Total... ..	11	Total... ..	3

1906.

Sierra Leone.—The spices received from this Colony were samples of ginger, guinea grains and fruits of *Xylopia ethiopica*. The first of these represented ordinary Sierra Leone ginger prepared by native methods, and a second sample the spice prepared by improved methods, involving washing and partial decortication. The sample prepared in the latter way proved to be much superior to the ordinary quality, and was valued at a higher price.

Gold Coast.—A sample of cinnamon bark was received, prepared from trees grown in the Botanical Gardens at Aburi. It was not well prepared, but was of good aroma and flavour, and was valued at 5*d.* to 6*d.* per pound, as compared with 8*d.* to 9*d.* per pound then being paid for well-prepared cinnamon.

Sudan.—The samples received included ginger, cardamoms, cumin seed and foenugrec, products which reach that country from Abyssinia. Most of these materials were of fair and saleable quality.

1907.

Sierra Leone.—The question of improved cultivation and preparation of ginger in the Colony received further attention during this year. A memorandum was prepared for the Government of the Colony giving information on these subjects and subsequently small consignments of ginger were shipped to this country representing: (1) ginger prepared by

the improved method, (2) ginger prepared by the native method, but thoroughly dried. These were sold in London by arrangement with the Imperial Institute. The better prepared ginger realised from 64s. to 66s. per cwt. as against 32s. 6d. paid for the product prepared in the usual way, clearly indicating that it would be advantageous for planters to devote more attention to the preparation of the ginger for the market.

Sudan.—These samples included garlic, ginger, coriander, cumin, and cardamoms as imported into the Sudan from Abyssinia. They were mostly of readily saleable quality.

A sample of cinnamon bark was received from the Federated Malay States, and a specimen of the fruits of *Pimenta acris* from Mauritius. The first of these was thick and not well prepared, and therefore of merely nominal value. Further supplies of the fruits of *Pimenta acris* have been asked for for examination. At the end of the year samples of vanilla from the Seychelles were under investigation.

TANNING MATERIALS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Transvaal... ..	1	Gambia	1	Gold Coast	1
Uganda	2	Sierra Leone ...	1	Foreign Countries	3
Somaliland	3	Gold Coast	1		
Sudan	1	Transvaal	1		
Seychelles... ..	1	Cape Colony ...	10		
India	14	Uganda	3		
Western Australia	3	Sudan	2		
British Guiana ...	1	Seychelles	12		
		British Honduras	4		
		Brazil	1		
Total... ..	26	Total... ..	36	Total... ..	4

1906.—None of the samples of tanning materials examined proved to be sufficiently rich in tannin to be worth consideration for export to the United Kingdom, but most of them were of fair quality and suitable for local use in tanning. This is the case, for example, with the three interesting materials from Somaliland, viz., “Wattu” leaves derived from *Osyris abyssinica*, a near relative of the plant which yields the so-called “Cape Sumach,” “gallol root bark,” from a species of *Acacia* near *Acacia latronum*, and “maua bark,” of unknown botanical origin. These yielded respectively 24·8, 24·0, and 13·7 per cent. of tannin. The two first-mentioned furnished leathers of medium quality whilst that prepared with maua bark was of fair quality, but rather harsh and somewhat dark coloured.

The samples from India were extracts prepared from the barks of *Shorea robusta*, *Terminalia tomentosa* and *Rhizophora mucronata*. Of these the most promising were those prepared from the last-named bark. They contained high percentages of tannin, but were rather dark coloured, indicating the need for greater care in evaporating the liquors prepared as a first step in the manufacture of the extracts.

1907.—The samples from Cape Colony included six samples of wattle bark derived from the golden wattle, *Acacia pycnantha*, and the black wattle, *Acacia decurrens*. All these proved to be of good quality and similar in type to the wattle barks now imported from Natal and Australia. They were valued at from £7 10s. 0d. to £7 15s. 0d. per ton.

The other samples from Cape Colony were samples of barks from indigenous trees, "White thorn" (*Acacia horrida*), "Krupeehout," "Kliphout," and of Cape Sumach. These were all of poorer quality than the wattle barks, and most of them though suitable for local use were of no value for export.

The samples from Uganda included "Busana bark," derived from a species of *Acacia*, probably *Acacia spirocarpa*. This is being used in the neighbourhood of Entebbe as a tanning material. It contains about 10 per cent. of tannin and yields a rather harsh, dark-coloured leather, and should only be used in admixture with the better materials imported to Uganda from India. A sample of the bark of *Terminalia velutina* was also received from Uganda. This contained 12 per cent. of tannin and yielded a light-coloured leather of fair quality.

The Sudan materials were samples of Kili bark from *Ficus* sp., and "Alimu" bark from *Ximenia americana*. The latter proved to be of fair quality for local use.

The samples from the Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast Colony, Seychelles and British Honduras were all mangrove barks. Of these samples certain of those from the Seychelles alone yield sufficient tannin (i.e., over 40 per cent.) to be worth consideration for export. The other samples could only be used locally for tanning or for the manufacture of tanning extracts. The samples from British Honduras and the Gambia, however, included barks which were of special interest on account of the unusually good and light-coloured leather they produced, for mangrove barks. The examination of this large collection of mangrove barks has enabled some useful information to be obtained regarding the value of scraping off the outer bark before shipment, and it seems certain that in most cases the outer bark contains little or no tannin, and its removal before export raises the average tannin content of the bark and reduces the bulk.

The sample from Brazil was "barbatimao bark," sent by the British Consul at Rio de Janeiro with a view to ascertain-

ing whether this material, largely used in Brazil for tanning, is of commercial value. The sample proved to contain 27·8 per cent. of tannin and to yield a leather of very good quality. It is worth noting that this tree has been introduced recently into German East Africa with a view to the utilisation of its bark for tanning purposes.

At the end of the year a sample of divi-divi pods from the Gold Coast and samples of mangrove bark from Portuguese East Africa were still under investigation.

DYESTUFFS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Lagos	1	Sierra Leone ...	1	Nil.	
Rhodesia	2	Rhodesia	1		
		Sudan	2		
		Seychelles	4		
		India	4		
		Miscellaneous ...	3		
Total	3	Total	15	Total	Nil.

Natural dyestuffs are now of little or no economic importance, and with the exception of indigo and a few of the yellow dyewoods and logwood, they have been almost entirely supplanted in European dyehouses by synthetic dyes of chemical origin.

1906.—The samples received in 1906 consisted of annatto seeds from Lagos and native-made indigos from Rhodesia. Annatto is still used to a considerable extent in colouring butter and margarine. The Lagos sample was of good quality. The Rhodesian indigos contained only 3·7 to 18·5 per cent. of real indigo, and were of no value for export purposes.

1907.—The “Gara” plant is used as a blue dyestuff in West Africa. It contains indigotin identical with that present in the various species of *Indigofera* used as sources of indigo in India, Java and elsewhere.

The Sudan samples were of the red dye “Sikhtiyan,” derived from a species of “dura,” the stems of which secrete the red colouring matter. The latter was shown to be a substantive red dye of the type present in red sandal wood.

The Seychelles samples were “orchella weeds,” for which there is still some slight demand as a dye. Three of these samples were of good quality and equal to the weed now exported from Ceylon and Portuguese East Africa.

Of the three Indian dyestuffs *Onosmea echinoides* contained a red dye like that present in alkanet root; *Hibiscus Sabdariffa*,

two yellow colouring matters, one of which is of the quercetin type of yellow dye; and *Thespesia Lampas*, the yellow colouring matter quercetin. In *Baccaurea sapida* no evidence of the possession of tinctorial properties could be obtained.

During 1907 a memorandum describing the cultivation of annatto and the preparation of the seed and dye for the market was prepared for the Government of Ceylon.

The miscellaneous dyestuffs received were mainly from commercial firms in this country, and included camwood and several lichens of the orchella and other types.

RESINS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Sierra Leone ...	2	Cyprus	1	Gold Coast ...	1
Gold Coast ...	3			Southern Nigeria	1
India	1			India	3
Federated Malay States.	1				
Foreign countries...	1				
Total... ..	8	Total... ..	1	Total... ..	5

West African Colonies.—These samples were chiefly copals sent for valuation and for information as to the desirability or otherwise of “scrapping” and “grading” them for shipment.

India.—These included samples of the resin of *Canarium bengalense*, which was found to be suitable for use as a varnish, and specimens of the common resin or colophony prepared from the “long-leaf pine” of India. The latter is still under examination, and a careful comparison of it with French and American colophony is being made.

The other samples received included specimens of elemi from Liberia and Southern Nigeria, and a sample of ladanum from Cyprus—a material at one time used in medicine and perfumery.

GUMS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Northern Nigeria	1	Orange River	1	Northern Nigeria	1
Sudan	1	Colony.		Foreign Countries	16
		Uganda	1		
		Somaliland ...	4		
		Foreign Countries	1		
Total... ..	2	Total... ..	7	Total... ..	17

1906.—The sample of gum from Northern Nigeria was sent by the Forestry Officer from Bornu Province. It was of the usual Nigerian type and of good quality. The Sudan sample was Talh gum of the usual quality.

1907.—The sample of gum from the Orange River Colony was from the "white thorn" (*Acacia horrida*), and was of a type not readily saleable in this country. That from Uganda was from *Albizzia Brownei*, and was of insoluble type. The samples of Somaliland gums were too small for examination or valuation.

At the end of 1907 a sample of gum from *Acacia Caffra*, collected in Northern Nigeria, was still under investigation, in connection with the question of the development of the gum industry in that country.

DRUGS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Gold Coast ...	4	Gold Coast ...	3	Sierra Leone ...	4
Sierra Leone ...	13	Northern Nigeria	4	Northern Nigeria	1
Uganda ...	1	Sudan ...	2	Lagos ...	1
Rhodesia ...	1	Nyasaland ...	1	British East Africa	1
Zanzibar ...	1	Natal ...	1	Somaliland ...	1
Transvaal ...	1	India ...	1	India ...	30
Sudan ...	3	Straits Settlements.	19	Straits Settlements.	1
India ...	3	Federated Malay States.	1	New South Wales	1
		New South Wales	1	Foreign Countries	2
		British Honduras	2		
		Foreign Countries	2		
Total... ..	27	Total... ..	37	Total... ..	42

A considerable number of drugs have been dealt with during the two years 1906 and 1907. In this connection it may be noted that Indian *Podophyllum* (*P. Emodi*) and Egyptian henbane (*Hyoscyamus muticus*), the constituents of which have been previously examined at the Imperial Institute and shown to be of medicinal value, are now being regularly exported for use as drugs.

The most important of these investigations conducted in the two years referred to are those carried on for the Government of India, and include the chemical examination of Indian species of *Aconites*, *Hyoscyamus*, *Datura* and *Strychnos*, and also Indian opium and opium alkaloids. Considerable progress has been made with the first four of these enquiries, which are, however, not yet completed.

The investigation of the best process of extracting the alkaloids from Indian opium is now practically complete. A new process has been devised for the preparation of morphine and codeine from waste Indian opium at the Indian Government Factory at Ghazipur. Preliminary trials of this process on a small commercial scale have been carried out, and these were so successful that plant for carrying out this process has been devised, and is now being constructed under the supervision of the Department for despatch to India.

The other samples referred to above have been mainly drugs in use by natives in the countries mentioned, and in a few cases the preliminary examination of these has shown that they are likely to be worth full investigation, and arrangements have been made for undertaking this. Passing mention may be made of drugs from the Sudan, which were specimens of the well-known drugs, senna leaves and pods. These were of fair quality.

The samples from the Straits Settlements in 1907 consisted of morphine salts, forwarded for a report on their purity and commercial value. A sample of coca leaves was received from the Federated Malay States, where the cultivation of this plant is now receiving attention. These proved to be of fair quality, and suggestions were made as to improvements in the preparation of this material for the market.

Other samples received in 1907 and worth mention were kola nuts from the Gold Coast Colony which were of saleable quality, hops from India, valued at 30s. per cwt. as compared with English hops then selling at 40s. per cwt., and a number of arrow poisons from Northern Nigeria, which proved almost invariably to be species of *Strophanthus*.

Two so-called "soap plants" were examined, "*Gusangus*" root from Somaliland and "soap berries" and leaves from British Honduras; both of these contained saponin-like substances.

The products awaiting investigation at the end of 1907 were mainly native drugs of the types already alluded to. Those from India were *Hyoscyamus*, *Datura* and *Aconitum* species, the investigation of which is being continued.

POISONOUS PLANTS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Lagos and South- ern Nigeria.	2	India	6	Transvaal ...	1
				Cape Colony ...	1
				Federated Malay States.	1
				New South Wales	1
Total ...	2	Total ...	6	Total ...	4

In continuation of the work done at the Imperial Institute since 1900 in the investigation of plants which have proved poisonous to cattle, a number of materials of this type have been investigated during 1906 and 1907.

From Lagos samples of the "afon" fruit reputed to be poisonous to horses were received, but on chemical and physiological examination of this material no toxic substance could be detected.

Chailletia cymosa from the Transvaal, *Senecio latifolius* from Cape Colony, and *Swainsona galegifolia* from New South Wales are under investigation, and some progress has been made with all of those, but as such work involves the isolation and complete investigation of the toxic constituent present in each plant, progress is of necessity slow.

The vegetable products from India referred to in the table were all white or red Rangoon beans submitted usually by commercial firms for identification and information as to their suitability for feeding cattle. The question of the safety of using these beans for feeding purposes in Great Britain is still under investigation in consultation with the Board of Agriculture.

TOBACCO.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Southern Nigeria...	1	Northern Nigeria	3	St. Vincent ...	1
Northern Nigeria...	1	British East Africa.	1	Foreign countries	54
Rhodesia ...	1	Trinidad...	1		
Ceylon ...	1	Bahamas...	2		
British Honduras	1				
Bermuda ...	1				
Total ...	6	Total ...	7	Total ...	55

1906.

Northern Nigeria.—This was a sample of tobacco grown on the banks of the Kaduma River and prepared by native methods. It was of fair quality, and though not fully fermented, burned well, and was valued at about 4*d.* per lb.

Rhodesia.—The sample from Rhodesia was a Turkish tobacco of promising quality, and was valued at 10*d.* per lb.

British Honduras.—This sample of tobacco was prepared by Indians in the Colony by the usual methods. It was of rather full flavour and pungent, but possessed good burning properties and fair aroma, and was valued at 4*d.* per lb.

The other samples received were not of a quality saleable in the United Kingdom; that from Bermuda was part of a crop raised experimentally in the Island, and was of good appearance, but did not burn well. The Ceylon tobacco was of the usual type produced in the Island, which has a large export trade in coarse tobacco to India and elsewhere. This tobacco is, however, quite unsuitable for import into the United Kingdom.

1907.

British East Africa.—Considerable interest is being shown in this Protectorate and in Uganda in the possibility of producing tobacco suitable for export to the United Kingdom, and at the suggestion of the Director of the Imperial Institute, an expert has been appointed by the Colonial Office to conduct experiments in the cultivation and preparation of tobacco, and to give advice to planters and others on these matters. The sample received in 1907 was from a firm of planters in the Protectorate. It was of the cigar class, and proved to be of a good type, but was improperly fermented and did not burn well.

The samples from Trinidad and the Bahamas were portions of experimental crops, and, though suitable for local use for cigar manufacture, were not of a type which is saleable in this country.

At the end of 1907, 54 typical samples of Greek and Turkish tobaccos obtained by the Director of the Imperial Institute during his visit to the Levant for the Colonial Office, were under investigation in connection with the growth of similar tobaccos elsewhere.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Southern Nigeria...	2	Southern Nigeria	2	Nil.	
Natal	1	Northern Nigeria	1		
Sudan	2	Sudan	1		
Ceylon	1	Various	2		
Various	6				
Total... ..	12	Total... ..	6	Total... ..	Nil.

In this group is included a number of products, which do not readily fall into any of the groups already dealt with. A few of these materials are of some general interest. The

specimens from Southern Nigeria included "ninkon fruits" used in West Africa as a sweetening agent. These were found to contain a small quantity of an intensely sweet substance, but the difficulty of extracting it makes the fruits of no economic value.

The sample from Ceylon was papain, the ferment present in the fruit of the papaw, which is used to some extent in medicine as a digestive agent. This was of fair quality and was valued at 5s. per pound.

From Natal, Itala nuts, the product of *Hyphaene crinita*, were received. These may be of some value as a source of vegetable ivory.

During the two years under review, collections of botanical specimens have been received from Northern Nigeria, Somaliland, and from various West African Colonies. These have been transmitted to the Royal Gardens, Kew, for identification. In addition, a considerable number of separate botanical specimens received in connection with vegetable products under examination at the Imperial Institute have been received, and these also have been identified at Kew.

ANIMAL PRODUCTS.

Samples reported on during 1906.	No.	Samples reported on during 1907.	No.	Samples awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Sudan	6	Natal	1	Transvaal	1
New South Wales	1	Uganda	5	Sudan	1
		Sudan	2	India	1
		India	1		
		Ceylon	1		
		Western Australia	1		
Total... ..	7	Total... ..	11	Total... ..	3

Uganda.—Skins and leather tanned with local or imported tanning materials were sent for valuation and for suggestions as to methods of improvement. The products were all of saleable, though rather poor, quality, and various recommendations were made as to the preparation and tanning of skins intended for export to the United Kingdom.

Sudan.—The samples included civet imported from Abyssinia, hippopotamus teeth, and sponges, all of which were sent for valuation. The first two were of good quality and of types readily saleable in this country. The sponges, on the contrary, were of doubtful quality, and there may be some

difficulty in finding a market for such products in this country.

Transvaal.—The sample from this Colony consisted of dried locusts. These have been analysed, and it is considered that they may be found suitable for use as a poultry food.

Sponges were received from Ceylon and Natal, New South Wales and Western Australia. Several of these were of promising though rather poor quality, but most of them were of no value in this country.

INSECT AND FUNGOID PESTS.

Specimens reported on during 1906.	No.	Specimens reported on during 1907.	No.	Specimens awaiting investigation at the end of 1907.	No.
Seychelles... ..	4	West Africa ... British East Africa.	1 1	Nil.	
Total... ..	4	Total... ..	2	Total... ..	Nil.

The insect pests received included several which attack coco-nut palms and some of those affecting banana plants in the Seychelles. From West Africa was received a "blight" which attacks guinea corn. These pests were identified by the experts of the Natural History Section of the British Museum.

The East African material was a root of a coffee plant affected by a fungus, which was identified at the Royal Gardens, Kew.

Where possible recommendation for the destruction and prevention of these pests were supplied by the Authorities referred to, and were transmitted to the Governments concerned.

A number of questions connected with the occurrence and treatment of insect pests in West Africa have been dealt with by Mr. G. C. Dudgeon.

VIII.—SUBSIDIARY WORK.

As has been previously stated in connection with the supply of information respecting emigration and settlement in the Colonies, the Imperial Institute has worked in co-operation with the Emigrants' Information Office, as well as with the agencies established in London under the auspices of the Colonial Governments. The publications issued by the Emigrants' Information Office have been supplied to enquirers as well as those published by the Governments concerned. The British Women's Emigration Association, which carries on special work connected with the emigration of women, has been provided with an office in the Imperial Institute, which, under the charge of Miss Lefroy, has been largely consulted by enquirers.

The Colonial Nursing Association, which has branches in most of the Crown Colonies and Protectorates, has been provided with a central office in the Imperial Institute, under the care of Miss Dalrymple Hay. From this office the work of selecting trained nurses for the Colonies has been carried on.

The African Society for the study of questions relating to the African Colonies and Protectorates has been granted the use of an office in the Imperial Institute, and the meetings of the Council have been held in the African Conference Room, where meetings of Committees of the Egyptian Government have also been held.

The Conference Rooms have been utilised for several meetings, and larger meetings have been held in the Jehanghier Hall or in the Great Hall. The British Women's Emigration Association, the Colonial Nursing Association, the Royal British Nurses' Association, the Victoria League, and the National Indian Association are among the societies which have held such meetings. A reception was held in the galleries in July, 1906, by Lord Strathcona, High Commissioner for Canada. The Annual Meeting in July, 1907, of the Victoria League, which was held in the Great Hall, under the presidency of the Countess of Jersey, was very largely attended, and was followed by a reception held in the Exhibition Galleries. The Colonial Premiers, at that time in England, took part in the proceedings.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's
Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from
the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.							
No.	Colony, &c.						Year.
547	Mauritius	...	...	...	...	...	1906
548	Fiji	...	...	...	...	...	"
549	Jamaica	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
550	British Guiana	...	...	...	...	...	"
551	Northern Nigeria	...	...	...	...	...	"
552	British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	1906
553	St. Lucia	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
554	Southern Nigeria	...	...	...	...	...	1906
555	St. Vincent	...	...	...	...	...	1906-1907
556	Basutoland	...	...	...	...	...	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	...	...	...	...	...	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	...	...	...	...	...	"
559	Swaziland	...	...	...	...	...	"
560	St. Helena	...	..	...	...	...	1907
561	Ceylon	...	...	...	...	...	"
562	Falkland Islands	...	...	...	...	...	"
563	Gibraltar	...	...	...	...	...	"
564	Ashanti	...	...	...	...	...	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	...	1907
567	Seychelles	...	...	...	...	...	"
568	Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	"
569	Weihaiwei	...	...	...	...	...	"
570	Hong Kong	...	...	...	...	...	"
571	Malta	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
572	British Honduras	...	...	...	...	...	1907
573	Gold Coast	...	...	...	...	...	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
575	Bahamas...	...	...	...	...	...	"
576	Gambia	...	...	...	...	...	1907
577	St. Vincent	...	...	...	...	...	1907-1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	...	...	...	...	...	1907
579	St. Lucia	...	...	...	...	...	"
580	Fiji	...	...	...	...	...	"
581	Mauritius	...	...	...	...	...	"
582	Straits Settlements	...	...	...	...	...	"
583	Southern Nigeria	...	...	...	...	...	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.		Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	...	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	...	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	...	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907-8.
54	Newfoundland	...	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	...	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks and Caicos Islands	...	Salt Industry.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 549.

JAMAICA.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 525.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1907.



LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
By DARLING & SON, LTD., 34-40, BACON STREET, E.

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1907.

[Cd. 3729-13.] *Price 2½d.*

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No. 549.

J A M A I C A .

(For Report for 1905-6, *see* No. 525.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

King's House, Jamaica,

17th October, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying Report on the Blue Book of Jamaica for the year 1906-7, which has been prepared by Mr. H. C. Bourne, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary.

2. Having assumed the Government of this Island since the close of the period dealt with, I have no observations to make upon this Report, which appears to me to present a well-composed and interesting survey of the year's transactions.

I have, &c.,

SYDNEY OLIVIER,

Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF JAMAICA FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

The improvement in prosperity which set in towards the end of 1905 and indicated the recovery of the Colony from the cyclone of August 11th, 1903, continued under favourable climatic conditions throughout the first three quarters of the year under review, and in January, 1907, the prospects of agriculture and trade were bright, and a large surplus was anticipated. On the 14th of that month at 3.33 p.m., when the West Indian Agricultural Conference, held at Kingston under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture and attended by an unusual number of distinguished visitors from the Mother Country was taking place, a terrible earthquake occurred which wrecked almost all the brick buildings in the town. It was immediately followed by a fire, which broke out at three different points, and rapidly spread over the business and shipping section of Kingston. In a few hours the commercial quarter was reduced to ruins, and nearly all the trading stocks and food supplies of Kingston were destroyed.

The following is the account of the catastrophe given by the Inspector-General of Constabulary in his Annual Report:—

“The disastrous earthquake which destroyed the business part of Kingston, and rendered almost all the dwellings in the remainder of the city and lower part of Saint Andrew uninhabitable, occurred on the afternoon of the 14th January, about 3.30. Several fires broke out immediately after the shock, within that portion of the city south of the Parade, between Church Street on the east, and Orange Street on the west, which rapidly spread and consumed the entire area down to the sea, including the wharves situated within these boundaries.

“The loss of life caused by the falling buildings and subsequent fire (many persons who survived the shock got pinned under the debris and collapsed buildings, or being too seriously injured to escape unaided, were burnt to death by the quickly advancing fire before they could be rescued) must have been over 1,200, including strangers who were visiting Jamaica, and some of the leading citizens, and prominent and business men, while numbers of persons were seriously injured. I am unable to state, with any degree of accuracy, the loss to property, but it must have been very great.

“As soon as possible after the catastrophe, with the assistance of the Deputy Inspector-General and other Officers, I organised the police, as well as was possible under the circumstances, and sent out parties to assist in rescuing the wounded and help at the fires, which could not, however, be checked, owing to the destruction of the principal fire station.

"The police, assisted by parties of the West India Regiment, who soon arrived from camp, and the Royal Garrison Artillery, continued during the night to patrol the streets and remove the wounded to the Public Hospital and other places of safety outside the fire-swept area. Picquets and guards were posted at the two banks (which although burned down had their contents safe in the vaults), Myrtle Bank Hotel, and at all other points in the city where their services were most urgently required, while the Water Police protected the sea front.

"Next day the work of rescuing the wounded and burying the dead was continued, and numbers of bodies, many of which through disfigurement could not be identified, were buried. Two sub-officers and eighty men were continuously engaged on this work for forty-eight hours, owing to the pressing necessity of quick burial.

"A cordon of police and military was formed round the burned area, and was extended so as to include the Railway Station and Kingston Mills, also the Customs and Bonded Warehouses, and the Hamburg-American and Railway Wharves. Everybody was excluded and none allowed to re-enter, except on production of a written pass. Guards of police and military were also mounted on the banks, wharves, customs, and bonded warehouses, the railway, and the few stores which were opened for business. The West India Regiment supplied a guard for the Public Hospital and Cross Roads, and the city and suburbs were constantly patrolled by police and military picquets.

"Almost the entire population of the city took refuge on the Race Course, and other open spaces, north of the Parade Gardens, being afraid to return to their damaged houses, but some of the lower order returned and looted many of the stores north of the police and military cordon. Numbers of them, however, were arrested, and a considerable quantity of loot was recovered on that and succeeding days, and removed to Sutton Street Station and restored to the owners.

"Reinforcements were called up from the Dépôt and the parishes of Manchester, Saint Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Saint James, and Saint Mary, and I was able to relieve the great strain on the Kingston men, who had been on duty continuously for two days and nights, as well as to afford the much needed protection which the city called for in its altered and defenceless condition. The Militia Artillery guarded the Railway buildings and contents, the Kingston Mills, and the Customs and Bonded Warehouses, the West India Regiment, the Wharves, Banks, Ordnance, &c., while the police and Saint Andrew Rifle Corps supplied the cordon and mounted guards on all the public offices, wharves, and food distributing depôts, and guarded the relief supplies as they arrived. The Kingston Rifle Corps, some of whom were mounted, rendered good service in patrolling the suburbs and keeping in touch with, and

reporting to, Police Headquarters, and Mr. S. C. Burke, B.A., of Westmoreland, and some of his friends, did valuable work in this direction for a considerable period.

“As the dead bodies were being recovered, and the streets within the burnt area cleared and opened to traffic, the cordon gradually closed towards the sea, when, at the end of two weeks, the whole city having been sufficiently cleared, it was withdrawn, and the services of the regular and irregular forces dispensed with. The extra police from the country continued to guard the lower part of the city, and mount the guards and picquets already established, down to the 1st of March, when the Kingston Division, having been increased by twenty men from the Dépôt, resumed entire control of the city, and the country detachments returned to their Division.

“For fully a week after the earthquake, Sutton Street Police Station and its approaches were actually besieged by the terror-stricken population, who looked upon it as a sort of information bureau, and every effort was made to supply information to persons—native and foreign—regarding missing friends, &c. As written permits were required to pass through the cordon the issue of these alone kept a couple of officers continually busy. An unusually large number of permits were also issued to persons leaving the Island.

“I have much pleasure” (writes the Inspector-General of Constabulary in the report from which this is quoted) “in expressing my appreciation of the valuable services rendered in aid of the police, under circumstances of almost unparalleled difficulties, by the Officers and men of the West India Regiment, the Royal Garrison Artillery, the Jamaica Militia Artillery, and the Saint Andrew and Kingston Rifle Corps, without which it would have been impossible to police the fallen city, immediately after the earthquake. The conduct of the men and the harmony with which they worked together was admirable, considering the depressing and disagreeable nature of the duty, the long spells of watching, irregular meals, contact with the dead and dying, and the dispiriting example of a despondent populace. Everything was done in a humane manner, and not one complaint of rough handling on the part of the police or military reached me. I must also pay a similar tribute to the Officers and men of the police, who worked, with untiring zeal, under very great difficulties. Their barracks were down, and when not on duty they had to sleep in the open. For days after the catastrophe they had to remain on duty for twelve hours at a time in the streets, with fixed bayonets, without a regular food supply, and, except where an occasional man dropped out through physical exhaustion, not a murmur or complaint was heard.

“The Water Police kept a vigilant watch on the sea front, and after the first day, at least, effectually prevented looting in that direction, and also made some smart detections of looted goods, while the detectives were responsible for the recovery

of a large amount of property which had been looted immediately after the earthquake.

"When we bear in mind the unprotected condition of the partially destroyed wharves, warehouses, railway premises, bonded warehouses, and private houses, containing goods and valuable property, it is satisfactory to state that, after the great panic of the first day and night—when it was almost impossible to prevent it—little or no looting or serious robberies took place. The conduct of the people was good. They gave the police very little trouble, and obeyed those to whom were entrusted the maintenance of social order, and I doubt if the people of more enlightened cities elsewhere would have acted as well, in face of such a calamity."

The Inspector-General's estimate of the loss of life is probably excessive. An alternative estimate of 800 is based on the following particulars:—

Buried up to 28th January—

May Pen	...	...	...	501
Half-Way-Tree	...	...	...	18
Catholic Cemetery	...	...	...	57
Up-Park-Camp	...	...	...	27
Spanish Town	...	...	...	5
Stated to have been cremated	...	...	...	91
				699
Deaths in Hospital after January 28th	...	...	...	13
				712
Bodies still buried in ruins and other deaths not included in above, say	...	...	...	88
				800

Any estimate of the destruction of property is necessarily very rough, but the following are the figures set out in the petition presented to the Imperial Parliament:—

	£
Loss of buildings in the burnt area	500,000
Losses on private buildings in Kingston and suburbs of St. Andrew	900,000
Ecclesiastical buildings in Kingston	60,000
Merchandise and personal property in burnt area	500,000
Ecclesiastical buildings out of Kingston	30,000
Other buildings in other parishes	20,000
	£2,010,000

The following paragraph from the annual report of the Collector-General indicates the extent to which the wharves and the wholesale stores suffered:—

“Out of twenty-one bonded warehouses fifteen were destroyed by fire and five by earthquake, but one escaping. The special stores fared no better, the freight house at the Royal Mail Wharf and that of the Hamburg-American Atlas Company being the exceptions. There were found to be capable of being patched up for immediate requirements seven special stores and four bonded warehouses. Of twenty-two wharves used for the commerce of the City six were totally destroyed by fire. Duty approximating £11,842 was remitted on goods in warehouses destroyed by fire and £1,260 in respect of goods short on stocktaking in those warehouses wrecked by earthquake.”

The Petitioners' estimate of the loss by destruction of buildings in Kingston was computed by taking the annual assessed rental of houses (including sites) at 15 years' purchase, and roughly estimating the depreciation at 95 per cent. in the case of premises in the burnt area and 75 per cent. in that of those in the rest of Kingston, and then deducting 5 per cent. from the total to cover inaccuracies. It may be doubted whether this allowance of 5 per cent. was sufficient, seeing that as regards the burnt area the value of the site alone would in every case represent more than 5 per cent. of the value of the premises, and as regards the district in respect of which a depreciation of 75 per cent. on the premises is assumed, that rate would imply a very much larger depreciation of the buildings taken alone and one obviously not in agreement with the facts. It may be noted that the properties in or about Kingston, roughly numbering 700, in which one of the leading building societies was interested were re-valued after the earthquake at nearly 95 per cent. of their former values, and many owners of sites in the burnt area claim that they have increased in value since the earthquake. On the other hand the value of the stocks and personal property destroyed is estimated by some whose opinion is entitled to respect at a very much higher figure than £500,000. The total amount of fire insurance policies on property in the burnt area is computed at £800,000.

The relief of immediate distress was ably carried out by a Committee appointed by the Governor, under the Chairmanship of His Grace the Archbishop of the West Indies, and among other steps taken by the Government, all the stores of foodstuffs remaining in the warehouses were commandeered to maintain a supply of the necessities of life at a reasonable price, and were sold to the public through the agency of shops specially opened or kept open under police protection. Goods were retailed across the counter at Wolmers School by the Headmaster of the School and the Secretary of the Jamaica

Institute, and credit is due to the Auditor-General for ultimately disposing of surplus stores.

Though the sum of personal loss has been enormous and a great part of the working capital of the trade of the Colony has been destroyed, its agricultural resources are unimpaired, and its productive power is reduced only in so far as local capital for agriculture derivable from Kingston is diminished and capital is diverted from agriculture to the replacement of capital required for trade. These effects, however, will, it is to be hoped, be materially checked by the munificent assistance afforded by the Imperial Government and the generous donations contributed through the Mansion House Fund and other agencies from all parts of His Majesty's dominions and from foreign countries.

The total contributions (apart from the Imperial Grant and Loan subsequently voted by the Mother Country, and excluding the stores which were distributed in kind) amounted to £103,670, which was made up as follows:—

	£
Mansion House Fund	54,053
United Kingdom—other public subscriptions	15,778
United Kingdom—private subscriptions ...	533
British Colonies—Government contributions	7,179
British Colonies and India—private „ ...	8,302
Foreign countries	6,804
Sale of relief stores	7,469
Island of Jamaica	3,010
Interest	542
	£103,670

Of this, £32,683 was spent in the relief of immediate distress, and a balance of £70,987 was handed over to the Assistance Committee, which has now been constituted to disburse the Imperial Grant in assistance of a more permanent nature. The operations of this Committee, and of the Loan Board, which is entrusted with the administration of the Imperial Loan, fall outside the year with which this report deals.

FINANCIAL.

The immediate effect of the earthquake on the revenue of the Colony was a few weeks' industrial paralysis, followed by a great increase in receipts from import duty and rum duty resulting from the demand for the re-placement of stocks. This increase commenced soon enough to neutralise the short period of stagnation which preceded it, and the surplus anticipated before the catastrophe has consequently been realised.

The accounts of the Colony for 1906-7 are not yet finally completed, but so far as at present ascertained the following are the results of the year's transactions:—

	£	s.	d.
Revenue	886,911	7	0
Expenditure	827,386	8	11½

showing a surplus of £59,524 18s. 0½d. This surplus added to the balance of assets with which the year commenced, £38,621 18s. 1¼d., has left the Colony at the close of the year with the balance of assets £98,146 16s. 1¾d.

A table in which the revenue and expenditure are compared with those of previous years is appended to this Report. The original estimate of revenue was exceeded by £84,752. A surplus was realised on every head of revenue except rents, which fell short by £150. The excesses were as follows:—

	£
Customs	41,000
Port, Harbour, and Lighthouse Dues ...	850
Licences, Excise, and Internal Revenue ...	11,500
Fees of Office, Stamp Duty, Reimburse- ments, &c.	6,500
Post Office and Telegraphs	4,800
Railway	13,000
Interest	400
Miscellaneous	5,000
Land Sales	13,000

The original estimate of expenditure, £801,230, was increased by supplementary appropriations of £25,591, and also by £29,187 devoted to the repayment *pro tanto* of the loan under the Imperial Colonial Loans Act, 1900, for arrears of Railway Interest. Of the total appropriation of £856,008, the amount expended was £827,386, showing a saving of £28,662.

A policy of strict economy was observed throughout the year, but the Supplementary Estimates would probably have included provision for certain road extensions and other extraordinary works, if the occurrence of the earthquake had not led to the postponement of all new works which were not considered to be matters of most pressing urgency. As it was, however, considerable expenditure was incurred on roads in Vere and St. Thomas which had been necessitated by traffic in the former case, and in both, by the economies which had been practised for years in the upkeep of the roads of the Colony.

The excess of assets over liabilities was at the close of the year, £98,146. The only assets which are not immediately realisable, are the following:—

	£
Parochial Improvement Loans and Advances to Parishes	37,744
Planters' Notes	29,828
Stores	30,172

and a few other Miscellaneous Advances. The amount still outstanding on account of Loans under the Hurricane Loans Law, 1903, was £2,648, and on account of advances to Sugar Industry £460.

For the benefit of readers who are not acquainted with the system of Public Official Accounts it is perhaps desirable to explain that the published statement of assets and liabilities relates only to transactions on general revenue account. Accordingly the liabilities do not include the amount of the funded debt nor do assets include the results of expenditure from loans. It is unnecessary to add that the Statement takes no account of Crown Lands and other items of wealth which have not been acquired from general revenue, or of the taxable capacity of the Colony which is the ultimate measure of its solvency.

The Public Debt, that is to say the funded debt of the Colony together with certain loans for special purposes charged on the undertakings and guaranteed by general revenue, amounted on the 31st March, 1907, to £3,654,388, and the Sinking Funds for the redemption of debt to £447,533. By the ordinary operations of the Sinking Funds, the repayment in certain cases by annuities, and the prescribed drawing and repayment of debentures, the outstanding debt will be reduced in 1915 to about £3,611,000, in 1925 to £3,494,000, in 1935 to £3,179,000, in 1945 to £1,688,000, and in 1955 to £36,000.

A lucid and exhaustive examination of the composition of the Public Debt is to be found in Sir Sydney Olivier's report on the Blue Book for 1901-2.*

The amount of revenue raised by direct taxation is comparatively small. Of the total revenue—nearly £887,000 last year—£411,000 was contributed by Customs and £101,000 by Rum Duty. It may be noted here that the existing Customs Tariff, by which imports not specially rated or scheduled in the free list are subject to the high *ad valorem* duty of 16½ per cent. has been renewed for five years from June, 1906. The Excise Duty on rum has remained at 5s. since 1898. The Railway (the gross receipts of which are credited to General Revenue) yielded over £148,000, and the Post Office and Telegraphs over £39,000. If licences, which are not compulsory imports, are excluded, the only direct tax for colonial purposes is the Property Tax, which is fixed by Law at 8d. in the £10 gross capital value, and last year yielded £29,000, and a House Tax in Kingston (in lieu of the Property Tax), which ceased at the end of the year, which yielded £5,779. The total of the Parochial Rates was £64,000, exclusive of about £3,000 Road Rates, by which, together with Taxes on horse-kind, carts, and other vehicles and a few minor items the Parochial Road Funds are fed. The total collections for these funds was £38,000. One other item of direct taxation not

* Colonial Report—Annual—No. 373.

included in the above should be added, viz.: Water Rates, which are for the most part compulsory in the districts served. These produced £16,800* in Kingston and St. Andrew, and £5,400 in the other parishes.

The Parochial General Exchequer shows a slight diminution compared with the collections of 1905-06, due entirely to the remission of rates in Kingston after the earthquake. But for this disaster the Collector-General reports that notwithstanding a reduction in the rating of Kingston of 2*d.* in the pound of rental the collection would have been maintained at the preceding year's figures, and so satisfactory were the City's finances at the end of 1906 that a further reduction of 3*d.* in the pound was contemplated.

The collection of the General Parish Rates under Law 16 of 1903 was very satisfactory. Arrear taxes were collected on 250,000 acres, while at the close of the year the arrear accounts consisted of only 66,000 acres. As regards Kingston, the system of taxation has since the close of the financial year been assimilated to that of the other parishes. Hitherto the house has been the unit for taxation, and it may be instructive to take this the last opportunity of noting the results of an analysis of the City's assessment.

The houses of and under £12 rental numbered 3,355, or 55·7 of the whole, while those of a rental of £59 and upwards were only 355, or 4·5 of the whole. The Collector-General observes that these figures suggest either that Kingston before its destruction was a very squalid city or that rents were very low. He adds that as a matter of fact rents were not low compared with rents of provincial towns in England. As regards the parishes other than Kingston the General Parish Rate was altered last year in only four cases. In St. Andrew it has been reduced from 1*s.* 3½*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*, and Port Royal from 1*s.* 10*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* In St. Thomas it has been raised from 1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 1½*d.*, and in St. Elizabeth from 7*d.* to 8*d.* It varied from 8*d.* in St. Elizabeth, and 8½*d.* in Manchester, to 1*s.* 5*d.* in Trelawney and St. James, and 1*s.* 8*d.* in Port Royal. The maximum of the Parochial Road Rate fixed by Law is 2*d.* In very few cases does it exceed 1*d.*, and in some no such rate is levied at all. The number of properties rated as being of £20 gross value or less numbered 54,827 or 43·7 per cent.; those valued at over £40 gross value numbered 21,285 or 17 per cent.

Of 160,000 tax accounts on the Rolls only 4·7 per cent. were in default at the end of the year, and it must be remembered that the arrear lists include derelict accounts and lands, the owners of which cannot be traced. The open accounts, which numbered at the end of 1904-5 nearly 19,000, and at the end of 1905-6 nearly 11,000, were at the end of 1906-7 only 7,954.

The following abstract indicates considerable progress in the ease or willingness of the taxpayers to pay their direct taxes:—

* Original estimate.

Taxpayers.

	1906-07.	1905-06
Taxpayers on roll	161,625	161,472
Paying voluntarily to end of June	85,484	69,779
Cases in which relief (partial or total) has been granted.	1,968	2,626
Assessment notices issued	91,166	106,279
Levy writs issued	57,506	67,288
Number paying to 31st December	146,444	136,842
Summonses issued	19,324	27,785
Paid on issue of summonses	11,059	14,112
Commitments applied for	2,502	3,935
Paid on issue of commitments	1,649	2,953
Number sent to prison... ..	76	91

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

The value of the imports into the Colony in the year under review was £2,261,469, as against £1,941,937 in the preceding year, which had shewn a very large advance on 1904-5. The exports for 1906-7 were valued at £1,992,007, as against £1,568,224 in the preceding year, which showed an advance of over £406,000 on 1904-5. As regards imports the increased collection of duty is shewn under many heads, the largest increases being flour over £5,000, and fish (dried or salted), whisky, tobacco, and oil, each over £2,000. A decrease exceeding £1,000 is shown only in the case of fish (alewives), the high price of which resulted in the substituted importation of dried or salted fish. The large increase in flour though due for the most part to satisfactory causes was also enhanced by the drought which set in before the close of the year and reduced the local supply of farinaceous food. The exports show an increase in value under each of the four heads under which they are classified, viz.:—

	£
1. Live animals, food, &c.	88,900
2. Raw materials	3,000
3. Manufactured articles	24,000
4. Coin and bullion	31,000

Under Class I. the chief increases were the following:—

	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Cocoa	16,500 cwt.	57,000
Bananas over	1,000,000 stems.	37,800
Rum	32,500 galls.	35,200
Cocoanuts nearly	4,000,000	15,800
Cigars	500,600 lbs.	4,500
Tobacco leaf	39,000 "	1,100
Turtle nearly	599	1,000

It is very satisfactory to note that the increase in the export of cocoa exceeds even that in the case of bananas. Cocoa is still classified among the minor products, but its cultivation is steadily extending, and it is a less precarious crop than fruit. The increased export of cocoanuts is an indication of gradual recovery from the hurricane of 1903. Smaller increases appear in grapefruit, limes, limejuice, and horses, and increases in quantity, but accompanied by decrease in value, in the case of sugar, annatto, kola-nuts, and yams. On the other hand the ginger exported, though less in quantity, was valued nearly £11,900 higher than the preceding year's crop. The chief decreases were:—

—	Quantity.	Value.
Coffec	25,900 cwt.	£ 45 80
Oranges	19,300,000 No.	19 500
Pimento	6,400 cwt.	1,300
Cattle	2,240 No.	13,000

Under Class II. the most important increases are wood (logwood) nearly £3,700, wood (bitter) £1,600, tortoise shell £1,700, and under Class III. logwood extract £16,600.

The following table taken from the Collector-General's annual report shows the relative importance of the Colony's staple products and the place that those still classified as minor products take in the list:—

—	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Sugar	8·1	6·9	6·3
Rum	6·4	5·6	7·1
Coffee	5·9	7·6	4·7
Dyewoods	5·4	4·5	4·4
Fruits	41·8	55·0	53·7
Pimento	9·5	4·5	4·2
Minor products	22·9	15·9	19·6

The one item under the general head "Fruit" that gives it its important place is bananas. The following are the number of stems exported in each of the past four years:—

1903-4	7,800,000
1904-5	8,900,000
1905-6	14,980,000
1906-7	16,000,000

The vast bulk of the crop goes to the United States, but the quantity sent to the United Kingdom, which was under

695,000 in 1904-5, rose to 1,217,000 in 1905-6, and 1,254,000 in 1906-7. In the same period the quantity exported to Canada has risen from 10,500 to nearly 118,000.

The number of oranges exported has fallen since 1903-4 from 82,600,000 to 55,100,000 last year, the export to the United States having fallen from 64,200,000 to 18,400,000. On the other hand the quantity exported to the United Kingdom which was 12,100,000 in 1903-4 has risen to nearly 26,000,000 last year, and to Canada from 4,500,000 to over 10,000,000. Pimento, of which Jamaica has practically the monopoly, fluctuates continually from year to year. The value of this export was worth in 1904-5 nearly £137,000, only £80,000 in 1905-6, and under £79,000 in 1906-7.

The following table shows the proportions in which our exports, including imports re-exported, were distributed among the markets of the world:—

	1904-5.	1905-6.	1906-7.
United Kingdom	18.8	19.3	21.6
United States of America	53.4	57.4	57.2
Canada... ..	8.8	6.1	7.5
Other countries	19.0	17.2	13.7

It will be observed that in the last year there has been a slight movement in favour of the United Kingdom and of Canada at the expense of the United States and other countries. The United States, however, take more than half of our exports.

It is a matter of gratification that the prospects of a great development in our export trade in rum are very good. According to the special Commissioner appointed under the Jamaica Rum Protection Law, 26 of 1904, the planters have received for their last crop £20,000 more than they would have received had there been no protection against fraud hitherto perpetrated against the Jamaica product. Many planters have combined and entered into contracts to sell their rum for a term of years to a company specially formed for the purpose of securing Jamaica rum against such fraud. The action of Mr. Nolan and of this company, together with the assistance to their efforts given by the Imperial Departments in the United Kingdom are likely to increase the demand for and stimulate the production of the genuine article.

An analysis of the shipping returns shows a net increase of steam ships coming to the Island of 103, tonnage 120,430. This increase, however, is entirely in foreign shipping, British steamships showing a decrease in number of 11.8 per cent., and in tonnage of 12.1 per cent. The total tonnage of British steamers in 1906-7 was 506,000 tons, and of foreign steamers 968,000. The

steam tonnage entering at Kingston has increased in 14 years from 409,096 tons in 1892-3 to 1,097,668 tons in 1906-7. The relative position of the ports of entry in Jamaica has changed little since 1903, and that little is in favour of Kingston. Kingston, which in 1903 did 71·6 of the total trade, in 1906-7 did 73·4. Montego Bay shows an increase from 5·8 to 6·1, while Port Antonio has advanced only from 4·4 to 4·5; Port Maria and Annotto Bay have both gone back and now stand at 2·7 and 2·1 respectively; and Falmouth, in spite of its harbour improvements, remains at the same figure, 2·1.

The land statistics of the Colony classify the land enumerated under four heads, viz.: tilled lands, guinea grass, commons, and wood and ruinate.

The following table shows the average acreage of each returned for last year and the average for the last four years:—

	1906-7.	Average of four years.
Tilled lands	255,414	229,127
Guinea grass	138,569	122,894
Commons	476,863	432,013
Wood and ruinate	1,270,551	1,292,531
	2,141,397	2,076,565

The acreage not accounted for varies from 3·9 in the case of Hanover to 32·3 in the case of Trelawny. A glance at this table suggests that there is much scope for the extension of agriculture. A further table is added showing approximately the acreage of the different cultivations:—

	1906-7.	Average of four years.
Canes	29,182	25,732
Coffee	27,783	26,348
Cocoanuts	9,782	10,915
Bananas	62,685	43,625
Cocoa	8,586	5,040
Ground Provisions	113,995	115,974
Other items	3,401	1,493
	255,414	229,127

Apart from agriculture and penkeeping, that is the raising of stock, the chief industries other than those connected merely with distribution are, of course, those incidental to agriculture. With the exception, however, of sugar and rum, and cigars,

no elaborate preparation of the produce of agriculture is necessary prior to exportation. Rum and sugar are manufactured on the estates on which they grow, and though various schemes for central factories for sugar are in process of organization, the manufacture of sugar as an industry distinct from the production of the cane has still to be developed. There are several factories of excellent cigars in Kingston, and the merits of Jamaica cigars are becoming slowly recognized. The demand for the tobacco is in excess of the supply, and in view of the special skill required in its treatment the position in this respect will be changed only very gradually. The five chief factories respectively produced last year quantities varying from 245,000 to 3,459,000 cigars, and two factories produced 3,000,000 and 23,000,000 cigarettes respectively. The cigarettes are chiefly made from imported tobacco. Cigars are also made in six of the parishes. There are half a dozen aerated water factories at Kingston and others in other towns. Ice is manufactured at several centres. Small breweries and tanneries exist in many places. Butter making is being developed as a special industry at dairies in Manchester and Westmoreland. A factory at Spanish Town (The West India Chemical Works) for the production of logwood extract has in recent years been a large purchaser of all logwood within its reach and the establishment last year of a similar factory at Lacovia in St. Elizabeth promises to be of great value to that parish. A small company has also been established in St. Ann for the manufacture of meal from native corn, and it is understood that in St. Mary the Patterson Food Company of London is exploiting the banana for prepared food. Reference has been made in the reports on the Blue Book for former years to local match and soap factories. Under the protection of the Colonial Tariff the match factory has continued to manufacture matches from imported materials and to compete with the article imported ready-made. The number of boxes made last year was nearly 77,000 gross. The Doncaster Brick Works at Kingston is the only rival of the Penitentiary in the manufacture of bricks. The hotel industry is gradually developing. In addition to the hotels in the neighbourhood of Kingston, the large Hotel Titchfield at Port Antonio, and the smaller hotels at Spanish Town, Mandeville, Moneague and Montpelier, there are now some fifty licensed hotels or recognized lodgings in different parts of the Island available for tourists, and the accommodation provided is improving year by year. Of those owned by the Government, Moneague Hotel has, in response to popular demand, been enlarged in the past year. The tourist season naturally comprises the winter months, but the large majority of visitors who come from the United States do not reach Jamaica until after Christmas. Hence the tourist traffic for last year was to a great extent destroyed by the earthquake. The Collector for Portland records that the number of tourists entering the

Island through Port Antonio, the port at which the visitors from the United States chiefly arrive, fell off by 985.

Reference may conveniently be made in this section of my Report to those agencies which exist for the promotion and encouragement of agriculture and other industries of the Colony. The Board of Agriculture, which is under Government control, co-ordinates and supervises the Departments of Public Gardens and Plantations, and of the Island Chemist in so far as he is concerned in agricultural experiments. It also has control of the expenditure of the Imperial Grant of £10,000 allotted prior to the Brussels Convention for the relief of the sugar industry in Jamaica. Of this £10,000, £3,000 was allocated to capital expenditure on building machinery and appliances required to carry out experiments in the manufacture of rum. The bulk of these experiments are conducted at the Government Laboratory, but a part has been carried on at estate distilleries. Of this sum allocated to capital expenditure £147 only remains. The balance of the fund was appropriated to current expenditure and will suffice to provide the means of carrying on operations until 1910. This recurrent expenditure includes the salaries of a fermentation chemist and a superintendent of field experiments, and also provision for the cost of systematic experiments in the value of manures as applied to cane cultivation and in the relative merits of different varieties of seedling and other canes. Provision is also made for the training of distillers in a more scientific manner than has been customary in the past. One result of the united labours of the Island chemist and the fermentation chemist has been the discovery of what is now known as the high ether process in the manufacture of rum. At the outset practically nothing was known as to the composition of the materials used and of the changes which occurred during the process of fermentation. The Island chemist claims that it is now established that the flavour of Jamaica rum, to which the great variety in its character and quality is due, is the result, not of alcoholic fermentation by yeasts, but of acidic and putrefactive fermentation by bacteria. It has been demonstrated further that the compound ethers are the chief source of the special aroma on which the commercial value depends. The high ether process reinforces the ether content of rum by recovering the volatile acids left in the spent liquor from the retorts and returning them into the process. This process was last year carried out on a commercial scale on six estates. The rum produced was sold in London and favourably reported on by brokers and merchants. In some cases, however, the extraordinarily high standard of ethers in the new rum has made the market slower to welcome it than might have been anticipated. Experiments in manures have been carried on in conjunction with soil analysis on selected estates in four parishes, and the experiment to test the value of seedling canes as compared with

the ordinary estate canes on twenty-four estates in eight parishes. Progress has been made in the agricultural education centred at the laboratory which is carried on in connection with the scientific work of the department. The training of distillers has been mentioned above. Seven students attended the course of agricultural science during the year: of these five presented themselves for diploma examination and were all successful. The standard of competition for agricultural scholarships was also much higher than last year.

The Department of Public Gardens and Plantations also carries on both experimental and educational work. The department has three stations, Hope Gardens near Kingston, Castleton Gardens on the banks of the Wag Water (s.c., Agua Alta) in St. Mary, and the now neglected Hill Gardens at Cinchona in the Blue Mountains (5,000 feet above the sea). The experimental plantation at Hope included during the year under review seedling canes, Havana and Sumatra tobacco, cassava (various varieties), cocoa, coffee, citrus fruits, bananas, pineapples, various vegetables, rubber, and vanilla. Possibly the most valuable part of the educational work of the department is that carried on by the two travelling instructors who spend their time visiting whatever districts in the Colony are in the greatest need of their services, to lead the peasant proprietor into the better way of cultivating economic plants. These instructors work in co-operation with those appointed for similar purposes by the Jamaica Agricultural Society. The management of that Society is entirely independent of the Government, though the Governor is its chairman, and it is supported by a Government Grant which last year amounted to £1,250. The various Agricultural Shows which are held under the auspices of the Society are popular social gatherings, and they stimulate competition in the minor agricultural industries and still more the breeding of high-class horsekind and stock. The Society also awards prizes directly for the best cultivated holdings in selected districts. The Westmoreland Sugar Planters Association and the Northside Sugar Planters Association are, as their names imply, devoted entirely to the interest of sugar and rum. They may congratulate themselves on the success of the measure promoted by them and accepted by the Government for the representation of the rum industry of Jamaica by a direct agent in London.

The Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce and Merchants Exchange, which was established in 1885, performs the functions of a Chamber of Commerce. It receives a grant of £100 a year from the Government.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

English silver is legal tender to any amount in the Colony, and the currency consists mainly of English silver, nickel coined specially for Jamaica, and bank notes for one pound issued by the Colonial Bank and the Bank of Nova Scotia. The amount of coin in circulation in the Colony last year is estimated at £300,000. The note circulation of the Colonial Bank was a little over £100,000, and that of the Bank of Nova Scotia a little under £40,000

The local bank-rate of interest is 6 per cent. The average rate of exchange with London during the past year was, bankers' selling rate 90 days, par, buying rate 90 days, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. discount. The Bank of Nova Scotia has opened a savings bank branch in which it allows 3 per cent. interest on deposits. The Government Savings Bank allows $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The latter has fourteen branches in the Colony. The total number of depositors and amount of deposits at the commencement and the end of the year respectively were as follows:—

	31st March, 1906.	31st March, 1907.
Depositors	38,971	40,056
Deposits	£ 353,125	£ 349,616

LEGISLATION.

The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, five ex-officio members, ten members nominated by the Governor, and fourteen members elected by the fourteen parishes other than Port Royal respectively. The bare majority of the votes under the Governor's control cannot be used by the Governor in all cases, as the votes of the ex-officio and nominated members cannot be taken in support of a law, vote, or resolution imposing any new tax or appropriating public revenue if nine elected members vote against it, unless the Governor declares from the chair that the passing of the measure is of paramount importance in the public interest, and similarly if the fourteen elected members are united on any question the votes of the rest of the Council cannot be taken unless the Governor declares that its decision in a contrary sense is a matter of paramount importance. The law of Jamaica is based on the English Common Law.

The following were the principal measures enacted during the year under review:—

Law 7 of 1906 provided for the appointment of an Assistant to the Attorney-General on the abolition of the Solicitor-Generalship.

Law 8 of 1906—the law to amend the Post Office Law 1868—compels all vessels outward bound to take mails at such rates as the Governor in Privy Council may fix.

Law 9 of 1906—the Produce Protection Law Amendment Law 1906—effected two changes. It compels every shipper of produce always to use the same trade mark, leaving it open to him, however, to employ subsidiary marks. It also abolished servants' licences under the amending Law of 1904, which appear to have created a class of tout who encouraged the peasant to sell him immature fruit for export, and also, as it is alleged, instigated praedial larceny.

Law 10 of 1906—a law to amend the Port Royal Law, 1900—reconstructed the Parochial Board of Port Royal on its abandonment as a naval station in being.

Law 20 of 1906—a law to amend the law as to the Registration of Voters and the Election Law, 1884—provides for the automatic registration of persons qualified as voters, provided they have paid their taxes, while it preserves the exclusion of persons who cannot write by excepting those who have signed their ingiving for tax purposes with a mark. The necessity of this law was suggested by the observation that a comparatively small number of persons who are entitled to be registered as voters took the trouble to get their names placed on the list. There has been a large increase in the lists since the law came into operation.

EDUCATION.

The secondary education of the Island, so far as it is maintained out of Government Funds or endowments administered under legislative enactments, is completely controlled by the Jamaica Schools Commission, which also acts directly in the management of the Jamaica College. The Secondary School at Montego Bay is under the Board of Education. The Government grants appropriated directly to secondary education in 1906-7 were:—

	£
Jamaica College 	1,206
Montego Bay School 	210

In addition about £1,150 was appropriated for scholarships. The Report on the Blue Book for 1905-6 gave a detailed account of the objects on which these appropriations are ex-

pended and also of the incomes derived from endowments by the secondary schools of the Colony. The total of such endowments belonging to nine different institutions amounts to about £5,800. The report for last year was received from the Schools Commission after this report was written, and it will perhaps be sufficient to refer for information on this head to the Blue Book Report mentioned above.

The basis of the elementary education of the Colony is a system of voluntary schools "assisted" by Government grants based mainly on the results of annual examinations. At the present time the whole expenses of these schools except for the provision and maintenance of buildings is so provided. At the end of 1906-7 they numbered 687, as against 692 at the close of the preceding year. These numbers include about 60 so-called Government schools, of which all but six are held in denominational buildings. In the past year Government schools at Annotto Bay and Port Morant have been opened and are in successful operation. The advocates of Government schools claim for the system economy at least of educational effort. They at any rate represent amalgamation, but, except in their management, which rests with a local Board instead of a single manager, and in the receipt of an additional grant by way of rent of 1s. a scholar where the building is denominational property, they differ little from the ordinary denominational school. A change which has been introduced in the method of calculating the numbers on the books and the average attendance makes an accurate comparison between the returns for last year and its predecessor impossible. The average number of scholars on the books for the year ending October 31st was 84,439, and the average attendance 54,868. The numbers on the register for 1905-6 and 1904-5 were 81,857 and 83,974 respectively. The average attendance for 1905-6 and 1904-5 was 51,931 and 50,612 respectively. The total payments to elementary schools and teachers were £43,845, as against £45,635 in the preceding year. The attendance in Kingston, St. Andrew, and part of St. Catherine, was naturally affected by the earthquake. An improvement in the efficiency in the schools, however, is evidenced by an increase of 8 per cent. in the number of first class schools. A slight decrease in the total amount spent on education is more than explained by the fact that for the first time since the hurricane the estimates for the year made no provision for building grants.

The Superintending Inspector of Schools observes that with a steady increase of trained and efficient teachers the attendance at the school barely, if at all, keeps pace with the increase in the population, and repeats the suggestion that compulsion is the only remedy.

The annual examination of teachers and students in the training colleges took place as usual. The training colleges

are voluntary institutions receiving grants from the Government, except the Shortwood Female Training College, which is still a quasi-Government Institution managed by an undenominational Board. The grant to that college is £1,204, to the Mico College £1,650, and to other training colleges, including bonuses, £910.

The teaching of advanced manual training has continued in the centres in which it has been carried on in preceding years. As a result of the earthquake the manual training school in Kingston has been removed from the centre of the town to a site where a much larger area of ground is available.

Certain changes made in the Code last year have, Mr. Capper observes, stimulated the formation and maintenance of school gardens with great educational benefit, not only to the school but to practical agriculture in their neighbourhood. It should however, never be forgotten that the main object of such work in elementary schools is in fact essentially identical with that of manual training. It aims at the training of the hand and eye and the general development of the powers of observation under circumstances, and in a medium, which correspond to the conditions under which the great majority of the children will earn their livelihood. A new officer has been appointed inspector of school gardens who has had experience of their working in the United States.

Two changes in the code, which have been the subject of much discussion, have come into operation and appear to be working satisfactorily. One of these effected a change in the hour for calling the roll, and the other, which causes the grants for the whole of the financial year to be regulated by the results of the examination held before its commencement, has removed a great inconvenience by securing a fixed income for the year. Another matter to which public attention has been largely directed was the proposed adoption of a day school catechism on the preparation of which all the Churches and sects collaborated. In the end the Secretary of State for the Colonies has found himself unable, in the absence of complete unanimity, to sanction its compulsory adoption, and so far little use of it has been made in the schools.

The loss of life in the schools caused by the earthquake was much less than might have been expected, seeing that the shock occurred at an hour when the schools would have ordinarily been in full operation. Fortunately in several which suffered most the children had been dismissed at an earlier hour than usual. Of the 31 Kingston schools four were completely destroyed and twelve were badly and six slightly damaged. Many owed their immunity to their wooden construction. January the 14th was the day on which most of the schools assembled after the Christmas holidays, and, though the attendance was probably rather below the

normal, some 4,000 children must have been in school at half-past three. In one case the children ran from the school-house, which remained standing, to the adjoining chapel, which collapsed and killed 14 of them. One child was also killed at another school. These appear to be the only fatal cases. Great energy was displayed by the teachers in making arrangements for the resumption of work, which was often carried on under booths made of branches or in the shade of a tree. Within three weeks all the schools except six were in operation. The Mico College and Shortwood College were both wrecked and their operations have since been carried on under great difficulties.

The system of payment by results is often the subject of adverse criticism, but the following extract from the Report by the Superintending Inspector of Schools shows that any departure from the system would be attended with serious danger:—

“In connection with the remarks of the Inspectors which I quote below, on the working of Article 28A, which allows the usual annual examination to be omitted for two, three, or more years, in the case of schools which have attained 60 or more marks, its place being taken by two visits of inspection and observation without notice during the year, I have made more particular enquiries from the Inspectors and others. The result of these enquiries is that the omission of the annual inspection is considered by all the Inspectors, and by the majority at least of Managers and teachers, to be detrimental to the efficiency of the schools. The one exception quoted by one of the Inspectors is a teacher whose school it was deemed desirable to examine, in the exercise of the discretion reserved to the Department, with the result that it was found, without reasonable cause shown, to have dropped several marks. The teacher in this case was opposed to the examination.”

	1905-6.	1906-7.
Grants to elementary schools and teachers	44,037	45,047
Building grants... ..	2,994	—
Administration and inspection	5,050	5,072
Government Training College (now under an Undenominational Board).	1,024	1,024
Aid to Voluntary Training Colleges... ..	2,551	2,534
Board of Education	170	108
Jamaica College	1,227	1,297
Scholarships	1,368	1,134
Secondary School, Montego Bay	200	200
Printing... ..	57	55
	58,858	56,561

The certified Industrial Schools have not changed since the date of the last Blue Book Report. The Hope School, where

the boys do agricultural work under the supervision of the officers of Hope Gardens, again had an average of 50 boys in residence. Efforts have been made to keep in touch with the nine discharged during the year. Of these five were reported to be working, three were at home with their relatives, one had left his employment, and one was imprisoned for stealing. Of six boys licensed out of school five for various causes returned. Under the management of the new master, whose death since the close of the year I regret to have to record, the school work of the Institution has made good progress and improvement in the general conduct of the boys is also reported.

At St. Mary's Industrial School for Boys there were 38 inmates at the close of the year. St. Mary's Industrial School for girls had 40 scholars at the end of the year. Of the four girls discharged, three are reported doing well, one as a cook and two as first-class laundresses. A noteworthy feature of this school is the manufacture of Jippi-jappa hats.

At Belmont Orphanage for girls (about 17) agricultural work is a leading feature of the industrial training. The girls attend the first-class Government School at Stony Hill. Four girls have been discharged and have turned out satisfactorily.

The Shortwood Industrial School provided at the close of the year for 45 girls and 5 boys. This is the largest industrial school for girls in Jamaica. The rate per child per diem charged against the parishes responsible for the children's maintenance varied from 7*d.* in the first quarter to 9*d.* in the second. The girls in addition to school work do their own laundry work, cooking, and dressmaking. They also make clothes for the Hope Industrial School, and work in the garden.

Happy Grove School, containing 23 girls, appears to have had a prosperous but uneventful year.

The Institution at Stony Hill, which is at once an Industrial School for boys and a reformatory for boys and girls, is dealt with in another part of this report. It is a matter for regret that it has not yet been found practicable to separate the two classes of boys which are committed respectively under the Reformatory and Industrial School Laws.

An educational institution to which reference should be made is the Institute of Jamaica. An account of this institution was given in last year's Blue Book Report, and it is perhaps unnecessary to repeat it. The Government vote for its support was again £900. It may be noted with satisfaction that though the building of the Institute was wrecked by the earthquake and much of its property damaged, the valuable library escaped with little loss.

CONSTABULARY AND CRIME.

The strength of the Constabulary Force at the close of the year was as follows:—

Officers	...	...	...	...	19
Sub-officers	...	...	...	...	136
Constables	...	...	...	...	675
District Constables	...	...	...	...	814

In the preceding year the numbers had been—

Officers	...	...	...	...	18
Sub-officers	...	...	...	...	135
Constables	...	...	...	...	635
District Constables	...	...	...	...	777

These figures include the Water Police Force and also detectives and mounted orderlies. The number of Sub-officers and men who were sick during the year was considerably greater even than in 1905-6, when the amount of illness in the force was a matter for comment. 1,921 men were at one time or another under treatment, the average sickness per man for the whole force being 8·43 days.

The Inspector-General in his annual report again makes a comparison between the proportion of police to population in Jamaica and in certain other Colonies respectively. He notes that while Trinidad has to every 10,000 of the population 23·98 policemen, British Guiana 22·10, Mauritius 20·22, Cyprus 29·53, and Barbados 15·83, Jamaica has only 10·1. While in Trinidad for every 10,000 of the population 918 cases are reported to the police, in Barbados 800, in British Guiana 335, the number in Jamaica is only 318. On the other hand, in spite of the numerical weakness of the force, the percentage of convictions of persons prosecuted was in Jamaica 68·36, whereas in Cyprus, Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana the numbers were respectively 66·90, 65·47, 62·65 and 58·59. Varying inferences might be drawn from these figures, but the Inspector-General bases on them a claim that Jamaica possesses the best behaved population of the larger West Indian Colonies, and that as regards detection the Jamaican Police are more successful in their results than the English Police, and in the matter of prosecution more successful than the police of the other Colonies with which a comparison has been made.

The total number of persons prosecuted in the year, including private prosecutions, was 27,178, being less than any of the other four preceding years and more than 3,000 below the total for 1904-5.

The total number of convictions for offences against the person was 2,404, against 2,349 in the preceding year. Of these 1,711 were convictions in petty sessions. Five persons were convicted of murder, against three and two respectively in the two preceding years. There was no execution in 1907.

The convictions classified under "offences committed against property with violence" were 216 against 275 for the preceding year. These included 13 convictions for burglary, 199 for house-breaking, and 75 for shop-breaking.

The convictions for "offences against property without violence" were 2,861, being 700 less than the preceding year. The bulk of these cases were, as usual, very petty. There were 1,216 cases of simple larceny, the average value of the property stolen being under 1s. 6d. The number of cases of praedial larceny was 1,082, more than 500 less than the preceding year, and nearly 1,600 less than in 1904-5. Though the advocates of heavy sentences and corporal punishment may attribute the reduction in certain districts to a strict administration of the law, there is no doubt that it has been in great measure due to the fact that throughout the greater part of the year the peasantry have had no difficulty in providing themselves with food by lawful means. Praedial larceny is committed for one of two reasons, either to satisfy immediate hunger or to sell the stolen produce. When the produce of the peasant's own garden fails to supply his wants he is tempted to steal, and in view of the difficulty of detection no effective deterrent is likely to be found until the practice is much more generally reprobated than at present by the public opinion of the class to which the offender belongs. As regards the more serious offence of stealing to sell, this occurs chiefly in the case of bananas and is always apt to increase when prices offer the greatest temptation. A subsidiary cause of the decrease in praedial larceny is possibly to be found in the recent abolition of agents' licences under the Agricultural Produce Protection Law, which, as I have stated in another part of this report, appear to have brought into existence a class of itinerant receivers of stolen produce.

Malicious offences against property caused 43 convictions, including six for arson. Forgery and offences against currency accounted for 22 convictions. Of convictions for "other offences," disorderly conduct is responsible for 4,412, and bad language for 2,930. The prosecutions for cruelty to animals numbered 515 against 607 in the preceding year. Obeah convictions were exactly the same as in the preceding year, 38. The number of habitual criminals under police surveillance during the year was 2,030. In connection with crime it may be noted that the Judiciary consists of a Supreme Court of three Judges (a Chief Justice and two puisne Judges), who sit separately as Judges of first instance at Kingston and on circuit in the chief towns of the Colony, and also sit jointly as a court of appeal, of a bench of lay magistrates for each parish, over each of which presides a Custos (*i.e.*, Custos Rotulorum), who is entitled to considerable social precedence, and of a number of stipendiary Resident Magistrates—at present ten—each assigned to a parish or a pair of parishes. These last, in

addition to their magisterial functions, exercise a large civil jurisdiction. Trial by jury is in force, but in civil actions it is much less common than in similar cases in the United Kingdom.

PRISONS AND REFORMATORIES.

The number of prisoners in custody at the close of each of the past five years was as follows:—

March 31st, 1903	...	...	1,067
„ 1904	...	...	1,178
„ 1905	...	...	1,402
„ 1906	...	...	1,295
„ 1907	...	...	1,176

There were also 14 persons undergoing imprisonment in local lock-ups for periods of 14 days or less. Of the re-admissions, 1,318, 483 had been committed three or more times previously. There were 32 deaths in the General Penitentiary and 14 in the St. Catherine District Prison, against 33 and 26 respectively in the preceding year. School has been held regularly in both institutions. The gross expenditure for the General Penitentiary was £13,427 and for the St. Catherine District Prison £6,131. The gross earnings at the Penitentiary were in cash £3,228, and in materials used for the prison £214. The gross earnings at St. Catherine were £1,512. The net cost of the prisons was therefore £14,544, or £11 14s. 2d. per prisoner per annum. The manufacture of bricks at the Penitentiary, its most important industry, has been interrupted for the time being owing to the destruction by the earthquake of the Hoffman Kiln. The work at the St. Catherine District Prison, intended for short-sentence prisoners, is entirely agricultural, and the farm yielded crops valued at £1,490.

The only reformatory is the institution at Stony Hill, of which the boys' department is also certified as an Industrial School. At the close of the year it contained 218 boys committed under the Reformatory Law, and 46 industrial school boys. The girls' reformatory had 35 inmates. The boys have worked partly at agriculture and partly under skilled workmen in the carpenters', blacksmiths', and tailors' shops. Others also are trained as masons and bricklayers and in cooking. The girls do all the laundry work, make and mend their clothing and do some work for the boys. The expenditure for the year has been £4,034, of which £531 has been reimbursed by the different parishes and £407 has been recouped by sales. The gross cost of each child is a little over £13 per annum, or 8'6d. per diem, against 8'8d. in the preceding year. The average earning of each inmate has been £5 13s. 7d., in 1905-6 it was £6 19s. 6d.

MILITARY AND NAVAL.

The naval buildings at Port Royal have been transferred from the care of the Director of Public Works to that of the Military Authorities. The expenditure incurred by the Colony on account of its Military Defences amounted in the year under review to £8,821, of which £1,794 was the cost of the Militia (excluding the band), and the Rifle Clubs, and the balance represents allowances to officers and men of the Imperial Service in lieu of free imports. The expenditure of the Imperial Government for the military establishment stationed in the Island and in aid of the civil establishment was £134,893. The Imperial troops stationed in Jamaica consisted of the second battalion of the West India Regiment and of detachments of the Royal Engineers and the Garrison Artillery, with other details. The total number of officers and men was, Europeans 403, and West Indians 741. The Militia Infantry was disbanded at the commencement of the year, but the Militia Artillery and the band were retained. The strength of the former was 104. The Rifle Corps, whose establishment was authorised on the disbandment of the Militia Infantry, consisted of the St. Andrew Rifle Corps with a strength of 135, and the Kingston Rifle Corps with a strength of 51. These Corps receive a grant of £2 for each efficient.

The barracks at Up Park Camp suffered very severely in the earthquake. There were, as stated in an earlier part of this report, twenty-seven deaths, and many casualties. The fire which broke out in the buildings imposed great additional work on the troops, but they were able to render valuable assistance to the police in the arduous duties which devolved on the latter in Kingston.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT (HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS).

The total appropriation for the Medical Department last year was nearly £55,000, as against an actual expenditure of £56,632 in 1905-6. The expenditure covers the cost of the Head Office, of the Medical Districts, at present 34, into which the Island is divided, each with a Medical Officer in charge, of the Public Hospitals and Asylums, of attendance on indentured immigrants, of special yaws fees and vaccination fees, of the execution of the Quarantine Law, and of the Central Board of Health, and of the Medical Council. The relief of destitution is delegated to the Parochial Boards, under a Poor Law system based on the Scotch Poor Law. With the exception of Manchester and Port Royal each parish has established a Poor-House. Kingston and St. Andrew combine to maintain one such institution. The hospitals directly maintained

by the Government are the Public Hospital at Kingston, and seventeen hospitals in various parts of the Island which had at the close of last year a total accommodation of 793 beds, and the Victoria Jubilee Lying-in Hospital at Kingston. The Government also maintains the Lunatic Asylum and the Lepers Home. The most noteworthy events which occurred at the Kingston Hospital last year were concentrated in the few weeks following the 14th January. The Superintending Medical Officer reports that when he entered the hospital shortly after the earthquake the whole quadrangle and the spaces between the female wards were crowded to overflowing with wounded people. "The patients," he states, "were lying with clothes partially torn off by falling masonry and many of them soaked in blood. The wounds were not ordinary wounds, clean made, like those to be dealt with after an action, but wounds made by the grinding and falling of masonry." The male wards had been shaken and the wounded refused to enter them. The plaster at the top of many of the female wards was loosened and fell in many places. The partly finished new operating theatre was wrecked when it was most needed, and the X-ray apparatus ordered previously had not yet arrived. The number of patients for whom provision is made on the Estimates is 214. The number on the night of January 14th was 624. In the first instance patients were to a great extent laid out in the open air, tents not being obtainable for several days, but fortunately the weather remained remarkably fine. The female wards were occupied, and the piazzas surrounding them afforded excellent accommodation, as did also the covered ways between the wards. Many, however, had to lie out in the open, and many had to be operated on where they lay. It is a matter for congratulation therefore, that the efforts of the medical staff, reinforced by medical officers from outside, and of the nurses, assisted by volunteers, were rewarded with results as successful as those shown by the returns of the institution. The total number of patients injured by the earthquake dealt with between the 14th of January and the 31st of March was 499, exclusive of a large number of cases treated for minor injuries of which no record was kept. Between the 14th and the 15th of January there were thirty-eight deaths, and between the 16th and 17th sixteen, but many of these cases had been brought to the hospital in a moribund condition. Of the 445 cases operated on 28 died. Seven of these deaths were caused by tetanus—a small proportion, considering the nature of the injuries and the conditions under which they were treated.

The failure of the ordinary sources of supply demanded extraordinary organization for the provision of food, drugs, and medical appliances, but the difficulty was successfully overcome with the aid of volunteers drawn not only from the neighbourhood, but also from across the sea.

This account would be incomplete without a reference to the means by which wounded patients found their way to the hospital on the evening and night of the 14th of January. They were brought in not only by relatives and friends, and by the police, but also by volunteers mostly working independently. Among those who did especially valuable service in this way it is not invidious to specially mention one name. Mr. Hodge, a rifle leader of the Kingston Rifle Corps, is entitled to the credit of having saved over twenty lives by his individual energy and initiative. By commandeering such carts as he could find, and impressing the services of stray spectators, he conveyed a large number of persons disabled by the earthquake and threatened by the advancing fire, first to a place of safety and subsequently to the hospital.

The gross expenditure of the hospital for last year was £9,192, against £7,888 for the preceding year; the average daily number of beds 229, against 206, and the daily cost per bed 2s. 2½d., against 2s. 2d. The total number of patients admitted to the Hospital in 1906-7 was 4,045. 2,870 were discharged cured, 300 died. The death-rate was 7·4. The Nurses' Home, attached to the hospital, which had been started in the previous year has been enlarged to provide for the housing of nine nurses. There is no doubt that this provision has tended to create a communal feeling among these young women and a devotion on their part for their work of which they gave such excellent proof when an extraordinary demand was made upon them.

Of the seventeen public general hospitals other than the Kingston Hospital, Port Antonio is perhaps the best equipped, owing partly to the liberality of American visitors who frequent the town. For example, the hospital is by these means in possession of an operating room and appliances superior to those at present available in Kingston. This hospital is one of many which were originally started to satisfy the law relating to Indian immigration. No distinction now exists between these hospitals and those provided primarily to meet the needs of the creole population. But the hospitals situated in the neighbourhood of estates which take indentured coolies are still distinguished by having a large proportion of Indian patients. Of these one or two have suffered from over-crowding in the past year, and one of these, Lionel Town, in Vere, has been considerably enlarged to meet the demands upon its accommodation. The daily average of patients at Lionel Town was 152, at Annotto Bay 139, at Spanish Town 58, and at Port Maria 54. The others have varied between 33 and 6. The daily cost of each patient depends largely upon their numbers, and also to some extent upon whether they are Indians or creoles. The daily cost of each patient varied from 6d. at Lionel Town to 1s. 9d. at Lucea. The highest death-rate was at Falmouth, 6·48 per cent., and the lowest at Cave

Valley, where the daily average number of patients was 6 and where there were no deaths. Port Antonio Hospital has been enlarged by the addition of two wards (30 beds) by fitting up the under building. These wards have been rendered mosquito proof by the erection of bronze gauze screens. This is a new departure in Jamaica. The out-door patient treatment, other than the treatment at the hospital, and the treatment of paupers includes treatment by the Government Medical Officers at cheap rates (1s., 2s., and 3s.) on tickets distributed for the purpose by persons specially authorised by the Governor. The number of such tickets issued last year was: 1s., 3,936 (all in Kingston); 2s., 2,018; and 3s., 16. The number of successful vaccinations last year was 24,470, against 29,112 the year before. The number of Yaws cases attended was 3,512, against 1,554 the year before and 1,367 in 1904-5. The Lazaretto opposite Port Royal was opened on five occasions during the year for passengers detained in quarantine. A number of cases of measles were landed from the Coolie Emigrant Steamship "Indus" and there treated. It cannot be claimed that the accommodation at the station is up-to-date, and the Quarantine Law of 1905 which would bring the Law of the Colony in this matter into line with other West Indian Colonies, by substituting *inter alia* surveillance for detention in the station in many cases, has not yet been brought into force. There is no doubt that the conditions of Jamaica differ from those of the Colonies which have accepted the most modern ideas on the subject. Jamaica has not only to protect itself from the importation of disease from the other British West Indian Colonies which have adopted a common system of precautions, but is within a few days' voyage of Haiti, Cuba, and the Central American ports, and is commercially to a great extent within their trade system.

The number of patients admitted during the year to the Victoria Jubilee Lying-in Hospital was 441, an increase of 6 on the preceding year. 132 of the women were married, and 127 legitimate children were born. 309 of the mothers were unmarried. The death-rate was the same as in the preceding year, viz., 2·4. 301 patients paid fees. The youngest mother was 14 years of age, as against 15 and 12 in the two previous years. Since the earthquake the work of the hospital has been carried on in marquees floored with wood work and with water laid on.

The patients at the Leper Asylum at Spanish Town numbered 113 at the close of the year, which had commenced with 115. There were fifteen deaths. The surgeon in charge reports that the farm attached to the asylum is in fair condition of cultivation considering the prolonged drought. During the past two years he has been treating leprosy by new methods, namely by preparations of red mangrove bark and latterly by subcutaneous injections of iodoform. He is not

sanguine as to the results of these methods and hazards the opinion that success in the treatment of leprosy will eventually be found in opsonins on the lines on which bacteriologists are working with reference to tuberculosis.

The report of the Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum contains some interesting observations on the effects of the earthquake and the subsequent shocks on the mental condition of many of the inmates. "The noisy and turbulent became quiet, and the quiet became excited, noisy, and destructive, and one woman who had been dumb for years was roused from her lethargy, and becoming noisy resumed her former life." A large proportion of the admissions subsequent to the earthquake are attributed to it, insanity resulting either directly from shock, or indirectly following from family bereavement or privations. The buildings suffered very severely from the disaster. Nine men were killed on the spot, and there were at least two subsequent deaths. On the other hand 20 sick patients in the female infirmary, which collapsed, were all rescued from the ruins. With the exception of four one-storied buildings and two ranges of single rooms, the whole range of buildings for male patients was totally destroyed, but though the patients had subsequently to sleep in the open air there were fewer sick patients under treatment after the earthquake than at any other period during the year. Sixteen patients escaped, and it was found necessary to seclude a number of turbulent lunatics pending temporary repairs. 33 harmless patients were sent home in order to relieve the pressure on the institution. The staff of the asylum, both professional and subordinate, are to be congratulated on the success which rewarded their untiring efforts to preserve the working organization of the institution during the crisis, and to minimize the suffering and discomfort of the patients. The total number of patients at the end of the year was 1,006, against 1,057 at its commencement. The diminution in number was due to the causes to which reference has been made, the actual admissions having exceeded those of the preceding year. The admissions were 234, including 62 re-admissions. 152 patients were discharged as recovered, and 9 as relieved. The total expenditure at the Asylum was £16,298, and the cost of maintenance 10*d.* per head per day.

POST OFFICE AND TELEGRAPHS.

The cash collections of the Department for 1906-7 were--

	£
Postal	33,360
Telegraphs	6,614

The estimates were exceeded on both heads and surpassed the revenue of the preceding year by a substantial amount. The total revenue of the department for the two preceding years had been 1905-6 £37,418, and for 1904-5 £33,447. The expenditure amounted to £32,194, against £32,115 in 1905-6, and £31,724 in 1904-5.

The department has in recent years been yielding a profit, but it must be borne in mind that it is not charged with any part of the subsidy of £20,000 a year payable to Messrs. Elder Dempster & Co. under their contract for a fortnightly direct service between Bristol and Kingston. This contract, however, has for its main object the development of the fruit trade with the Mother Country, and if the Jamaica Post Office were debited with a portion of the subsidy equivalent to what was paid under the last mail contract for the carriage of mails the department would still be more than self-supporting. The ocean postages collected have risen from £5,712 in 1904-5 to £7,659 in 1906-7, and the inland postages from £21,390 to £24,400.

The total number of letters and postcards passing through the head office is estimated at—outwards 3,123,551, inwards 3,263,010. The corresponding figures for 1903-4 were 2,133,817 and 2,347,186 respectively. The number dealt with at the District post offices was 1,308,328 in 1906-7, against 1,213,211 in 1903-4.

Mails were despatched by 516 vessels and received by 570, the mails despatched abroad being 87 more than in the preceding year, and those received 31 less. The reduction in the number received is attributed by the postmaster to the adoption by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company since the termination of their contract of a more circuitous route. Though the service provided by this Company between England and Jamaica is now of little use either for mails or passengers, their fortnightly service to and from New York, which is worked in connection with the Cunard Line, provides an alternative route to England to that furnished by the direct line (Elder Dempster & Co.). The Hamburg-American Line and the vessels of the United Fruit Company, some of which are under contract with the United States Government for the carriage of mails between Boston and Jamaica, afford further regular communication with the States.

Under the operation of a law passed in the preceding year the total expenditure for the ocean mail service chargeable to

the department amounted to only £2,067. The inland mail service which is carried partly by the Government Railway, and partly by road, cost £9,030, as against £8,722 in the preceding year. The carriage by road is in some cases undertaken by the Public Works Department and in others is subject to contract. As a means of travelling the mail coach cannot be specially recommended.

A daily service is established throughout the Island, but house to house delivery is at present in operation only in Kingston and Spanish Town.

Money orders were issued to the number of 8,301 and the value of £32,208—in both cases an advance on the preceding year. Foreign money orders were received to the number of 7,546 and to the value of £25,106. Both figures are more than double those for 1905-6, the large increase being due to the establishment of a money order system in June, 1906, between Jamaica and the Canal Zone. A new money order direct system with Canada was introduced on the 1st of January last. The Commission on British postal orders of the value of 2s. 6d. has been reduced from 1d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The value of postal orders sold has risen from £32,096 in 1904-5 to £33,150 in 1906-7.

The parcels post business is also increasing, the parcels received numbering 25,170, against 22,319 in the preceding year. The import duty paid on them was £4,090. The parcels despatched were 5,730, against 5,901 in 1905-6. The bulk of the business done through the parcels post is carried on with the Mother Country. The parcels received from the United Kingdom, however, which had been 79 per cent. of the whole in 1904-5, were only 72 per cent. in 1905-6, and 73 per cent. in 1906-7, while those received from the United States were 17 per cent. in 1904-5, 24 per cent. in 1905-6, and 22 per cent. in 1906-7. Of the parcels despatched the percentage sent to the United Kingdom has remained during the three years at 71 per cent.

At the end of the year there were 64 telegraph stations and seven telephone stations in operation under the postal system. In addition to these the railway telegraph service has generally been available to the public.

The total number of messages sent was 109,859, being 7,870 more than in the preceding year. All the telegraph offices have been overhauled and defective leading wires have been replaced during the year. The department continues to work in harmony with the local superintendents of the ocean cables, and during the year £2,398 was collected on behalf of the Direct Cable Company, and £1,042 for the West India and Panama Cable Company.

The profits made by the postal and telegraph departments as a whole have been stated above. It is not so easy to compare the revenue and expenditure of the telegraph service

taken separately, as the salaries and wages are for the most paid for the performance of a combination of duties. Charging the service, however, with its fair proportion of salary and wages and including the maintenance of the wires which is borne by the Public Works Department, the Postmaster states the cost of the telegraph system approximately as follows:—

	£
Salaries, Head Office	1,042
Salaries, District Offices	3,432
Messengers	998
Maintenance of Lines	801
Rent (say)	700
Other Expenses	912
	£7,885

This total cost is therefore considerably in excess of the telegraph receipts which, as stated above, amounted last year to £6,614, and in the two preceding years to £5,983 and £4,792 respectively.

The Post Office Buildings suffered severely from the earthquake, and two clerks and three letter-carriers were killed by falling buildings. Though, however, the business of the department had to be mainly carried on for some time in an open yard, the continuity of the mail service was scarcely broken, and telegraphic communication was promptly restored with all parts of the Colony. Communication by telegraph with the outer world was in the first instance cut off, but the West India and Panama Company's cable was very quickly reconnected. On the other hand the Direct Company's cable was broken to fragments near the spot which appears to have been the centre of the seismic disturbance, and weeks elapsed before the necessary repairs could be effected.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The expenditure of the Works Department amounted in the year 1906-7 to £111,310, including £1,728 value of lumber imported and not used within the year. The details of expenditure were as follows:—

	£
Salaries, &c.	14,071
Main Roads and Bridges Maintenance...	62,444
Main Roads and Bridges, New Works...	345
Buildings and Telegraph (ordinary maintenance)	7,444
Buildings and Telegraph (earthquake repairs)	8,012
Clearing débris in Kingston streets ...	534

Buildings—		£
New Works	...	5,099
Falmouth Harbour	...	3,013
Telegraph Construction	...	106
Lighthouses Maintenance	...	1,306
Rio Cobre Irrigation	...	1,774
Spanish Town Water Works	...	458
Expenditure under Sundry Laws	...	586
Work done for other Departments and Bodies	...	6,111

The expenditure exceeded that of the preceding year by £10,746, of which £9,789 was directly occasioned by the earthquake. The cost of the department was 12·6 per cent. of its expenditure. The total damage to buildings under the care of the department caused by the earthquake is estimated by the Director of Public Works at nearly £60,000, of which £50,000 occurred in Kingston and St. Andrews, £4,000 in St. Catherine, and the balance in St. Thomas, Portland, and St. Mary. Against this damage of £60,000, £8,012 only was expended in repairs before the end of the year under review. The damage done to roads and bridges is estimated at £8,200, of which £2,000 was expended within the year. The effect on the main roads was, according to the report of the Director of Public Works, comparatively insignificant, and on bridges quite inappreciable. Damage to the roads was confined to the hill districts of St. Andrew and Portland and a small part of St. Mary and St. Catherine. In all cases it was due to local landslips caused by the earthquake, and not directly to the latter. With regard to buildings in Kingston, with the remarkable exception of the old Treasury building which was constructed of wood, all the Public Offices and the Supreme Court and the Resident Magistrate's and Police Court, were wholly or partially wrecked. Only Headquarters House, the Island Medical Office, and the Offices of the Public Works, Lands, Education, and Immigration Departments, in addition to the old Treasury, remained even partially safe for occupation. The masonry of Plumb Point Lighthouse was shattered and its iron pedestal broken, and the light apparatus thrown on its side. No light was exhibited for the first three nights, but it was temporarily restored on the fourth. The lamp was, however, again disabled by subsequent shocks and was temporarily replaced by lamps of inferior power until the 17th of February, when the tower had, with the assistance of the engineering staff of H.M.S. "Indefatigable" been permanently repaired.

The clearing of the streets of débris was commenced the day after the earthquake, the officers of the Public Works Department being assisted by those of other Departments and private gentlemen who volunteered their

services for the purpose. On the arrival of H.M.S. "Indefatigable" the gangs already organised were reinforced by a large force of marines, and in the course of two weeks the work was sufficiently advanced to be handed over to the Mayor and Council. Temporary arrangements for the accommodation of the Public Offices were put in hand on the 15th of January, accommodation being provided not only for Government Departments but also for the Government's bankers, the Bank of Nova Scotia.

The total length of main roads at the close of the year was 1,944 miles. The average cost of maintenance was £28 14s. per mile or £2 12s. more than in the preceding year. The cost varied from £46 11s. per mile in St. Mary to £16 1s. in Manchester. The continuous rain which prevailed in the southern parishes from May to October was a source of considerable expense, and in many districts, especially in Vere, the increased traffic of bananas necessitated greater attention to the roads than in previous years. No new works of any importance were undertaken under the head "Roads and Bridges," the whole of such expenditure amounting to only £345. The length of the telegraph lines in working maintained by the department remained at 695 miles, but a new line from Christiana to Cave Valley was commenced.

The total expenditure on the Rio Cobre Irrigation Works was £1,774, and its earnings £9,458. The area irrigated was 12,000 acres, the acreage in bananas being 300 more than in the preceding year. Under the head of "Public Buildings" no new works of importance were undertaken. A new operating theatre at the Public Hospital was approaching completion when it was wrecked by the earthquake. A new ward was added to the Lionel Town Hospital to meet the demand caused by the increased introduction of coolies into Vere, and the hospital at Port Antonio was also enlarged.

The Falmouth Harbour Works have been, it is hoped, finally and satisfactorily completed. Steamers of large size can now enter and leave the harbour with safety at all hours of the day and night.

Reference has been made above to the Rio Cobre Irrigation Works, and it will be convenient here to mention the only other similar undertaking of any importance in the Colony, namely, the Vere Irrigation Canal, although the latter is under Government control only to a limited extent, the management being in the hands of Commissioners chiefly representing the interests of the consumers of water. The Vere Commissioners are still struggling with difficulties incidental to construction, but their works have already largely promoted the extension of cultivation in the district which they serve.

RAILWAY.

The total earnings of the railway for the year under review amounted to £150,013 (actual receipts £148,421, against £134,233 in 1905-6). The expenditure was £79,046, against £78,718. The net earnings for the past five years have been:—

	£
1902-3	53,618*
1903-4	33,740
1904-5	24,306
1905-6	55,504
1906-7	70,966

The year has been a very successful one for the railway, but it must not be forgotten that, while the net earnings were nearly £71,000, the interest paid on the railway debt, which is not charged to the railway, amounted to £85,000. The results shown are largely due to great economy in management and, it may be added, to the postponement of all special work and improvements that have not been considered absolutely necessary.

In 1905-6 £1,686 was expended on additional rolling stock, and £2,250 was provided on the estimates for 1906-7: £393 only was expended. Similarly for additional and special works, on which £2,601 was expended in 1905-6, and for which £3,148 was voted, only £680 was expended. On the other hand before the close of the year £1,835 had been spent on repairs necessitated by the earthquake. Though the head railway station was badly damaged and the workshops wrecked and much damage was done to rolling stock the permanent way was fortunately uninjured. The service was practically uninterrupted, a fact on which the Colony is to be congratulated, as it enabled stores to be poured into Kingston from the parishes, and provided the means of escape for large numbers of houseless people.

It may be noted that in the months of February and March while the number of first-class passengers carried was 4,558 less than in the preceding year, the third-class passengers were 14,600 more. This result is attributed on the one hand to movements of the population brought about by the earthquake and on the other to the sudden interruption of the tourist trade.

The total length of the railway line, exclusive of sidings, remains at 184 miles.

Apart from the Government Railway the United Fruit Company owns a private line, eight miles long, for the conveyance of fruit from the interior of St. Thomas to Port Morant, and the Vere Estates Company has recently constructed thirteen miles of line in the south of Clarendon.

* Excluding £9,489 written off to Loan Account.

CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT.

The total area of Crown Land at the end of the year was 202,750 acres. Two hundred and fifty-seven acres were alienated in the year in forty-eight grants, of which none comprised 100 acres. The average price per acre realized was £1 4s. These figures are exclusive of twenty-two town lots sold for a total of £964.

CLIMATE.

The average rainfall at 129 stations for the year 1906 was 86·71 inches. It varied from 13·23 in May to 2·06 in December. The highest average was in the N.E. district, viz.: 109·69; the lowest in the N. district, 56·25. The mean temperature at Negril Point Lighthouse, thirty-three feet above sea level, was 76·1 Fahr. at 7 a.m. and 82·2 at 3 p.m. The maximum was 92·9 on the 19th of September and the minimum 63·9 on the 6th of April. It must be borne in mind however that the mountainous nature of the Island causes a great variety of temperature in different districts. The uplands of St. Ann's enjoy a climate very different from that of the Liguanea Plain, while houses in the Blue Mountains are provided with fireplaces, and on the Blue Mountain Peak hoar frost is not unknown.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Registrar General's Returns furnish the following statistics;—

Estimated population on the 31st March,					
1907	...	...	...	...	830,261
Births, 1906-7	...	...	...	...	31,547
Deaths, 1906-7	...	...	...	...	21,723
Marriages, 1906-7	...	...	...	...	5,507

The birth-rate was 38·1 per thousand, the death-rate 26·2 per thousand, and the marriage-rate 6·6 per thousand.

The marriage-rate was extraordinarily high. In the preceding year it had been 3·8 per thousand, and the average for nine years had been 4·2. This remarkable increase is mainly due to the number of marriages which took place after the 14th January. Of the total number 1,228 were registered in February, and more than half in the March quarter. 43·5 per cent. of the parties married signed the register by mark. 65·2 per cent. of the births registered were illegitimate—the same percentage of illegitimacy as in the preceding year. The death-rate which was, as stated above, 26·2 for the whole Colony, as against 21·9 for 1905-6, rose in Kingston from 28·0 in the former year to 36·9 in 1906-7 and in St. Andrew from 29·1 to 37·2.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Any retrospect of the past year is apt to stop short at the 14th of January. In the first part of this report I have shown that prior to that date the outlook of the Colony was very encouraging; and I venture to express the hope that in the future it will be realized that the rude and terrible check which Jamaica has received has had only a very temporary effect on its material progress. The appalling incidence however of the calamity on the lives and fortunes of individuals will cause the year in which it occurred to be known henceforth as the Earthquake Year, and I need offer no excuse for confining my concluding remarks to certain observations on the experience of earthquakes which Jamaica has had in the past.

These phenomena are not new to the Island, but disastrous earthquakes are fortunately few and far between. The first of which we have any account was felt by Dr. Hans Sloane at Spanish Town on the 19th February, 1688, when at about 8 a.m. three light shocks occurred, lasting about one minute altogether, and sounds were also heard. In the introduction to his "Natural History of Jamaica," Volume I., he writes:

"Earthquakes, as they are too in Hispaniola, where they have formerly thrown down the town of Santo Domingo, so they are too common here also: the inhabitants expect one every year and some of them think they follow their great rains." The following observations are instructive: "The Spaniards who inhabited this Island and those neighbouring built their houses very low, and they consisted only of ground rooms, their walls being made of posts which are as much buried underground as they stood above, on purpose to avoid the danger which attended the manner of building from earthquakes. I have seen in the mountains afar off bare spots which the inhabitants told me were the effects of earthquakes throwing down part of the hills, which continued bare and steep."

It is also noteworthy that referring to Port Royal, Sir Hans Sloane writes:

"This point which was called Point Cagway, where Port Royal stood, was never built upon by Spaniards while they remained possessors of the Island, for two reasons, as I was informed.* The first was the frequency of earthquakes, which when considerable would certainly overturn it."

Long, one of the historians of Jamaica, giving a detailed account of the memorable earthquake of the 7th of June, 1692, which destroyed Port Royal and did great damage over the rest of the Island, writes:

* The other cause was the fear of being "washed off" by hurricanes from the South.

"It left not a house standing at Passage Fort, only one at Liguanea, destroyed most of the planters' habitations in the country, and all in St. Jago de la Vega, except what were built by Spaniards."

The preamble to the Act entitled "An Act for establishing a Perpetual Anniversary Fast on the Seventh June" passed by the Assembly of Jamaica in 1693, refers to the historic calamity of 1692 as "a most terrible and dreadful earthquake, which not only laid waste Our Estates and places of habitation in general, but also destroyed many hundreds of people."

After this there appears to have been no considerable shock for about 80 years, but on September 3rd, 1771, a severe one occurred at Kingston and Port Royal, which Admiral Lord Rodney mentions in the following passage:

"Since my letter of the 14th inst. (Sept.) giving Their Lordships an account of the violent earthquake which happened the day before, which has been attended with frequent shocks till within these days, and in the opinion of the inhabitants done more damage than any since the great one in 1692, particularly in the town of Port Royal and Kingston, in the former of which there is not a single house that has not been damaged, I find His Majesty's Dockyard has suffered considerably."

"There have," he continues, "been nine shocks since the first, but as each has appeared weaker I hope we shall experience no more of them."

While various shocks are recorded in the succeeding 40 years, and among them some noted by Lady Nugent in 1802 as causing a good deal of alarm, the next considerable disturbance appears to have taken place in 1812. On November 11th in that year, as the Jamaica Magazine records, "about ten minutes before six in the morning, there was a great earthquake which was felt all over the Island, but chiefly at the eastern end. Three shocks succeeded each other rapidly, there were tremblings, concussions, durations, and sounds. Great damage was done to the houses in Kingston. At Annotto Bay the anchorage ground sank. The "Experiment" lost her anchors and ninety fathoms of cable, which were swallowed up. There had been a slight shock previously at 2.30 a.m. that morning."

In the introduction to Volume II. of the Jamaica Meteorological Observation by Mr. Maxwell Hall, from which these particulars have been taken, there are also to be found notes of similar disturbances in the other Islands of the Greater Antilles, of which some were also felt in greater or less intensity in Jamaica.

In June, 1766, a violent shock did great damage at Santiago de Cuba; it was felt in Jamaica, but, as Long states, "it threw down no buildings here."

The following is an extract from Southey's Chronological History of the West Indies, Volume II.:

"Upon the 3rd of June, 1770, about a quarter past seven in the evening, four violent shocks of earthquake were felt at Cape Nicola Mole, in St. Domingo: the most severe lasted two minutes and a half, accompanied with a noise much like an echo from the hills after the firing of cannon. The town did not receive any damage, but the city of Port au Prince was entirely destroyed; not one house was left standing, and about 500 persons were buried in the ruins. Petit Goave and Leogane were also destroyed. The plains of Leogane, Port au Prince, and Petit Goave suffered considerably, all the sugar works were destroyed, and La Croix de Bouquet, a small town, with the greatest part of its inhabitants, was swallowed up. The earthquake extended thirty-five leagues, and the sea rose a league and a half up into the Island."

This appears to have been felt in Jamaica as "a very smart shock which continued near the space of one minute. It was most violent at Kingston, where it threw down several kitchen chimneys, &c."

On the 7th May, 1842, a shock was felt at Cape Haytian in Haiti, where it is said to have destroyed the town and caused the death of 3,000 people. It was also felt in Jamaica, but no particular damage seems to have been recorded.

Seismic disturbances similar to those noted in Cuba and Haiti seem to have occurred from time to time in the more easterly members of the same chain of Islands, and disastrous earthquakes in Porto Rico, St. Thomas, and Antigua are on record.

For purposes of reference, Mr. Maxwell Hall, the Government Meteorologist for Jamaica, has adopted the following scale:—

- I. Light shock.
- II. Well-marked shock.
- III. Shock sufficient to make houses rock.
- IV. Shock sufficient to crack walls of houses.
- V. Shock sufficient to throw down a few houses.
- VI. Shock sufficient to throw down almost all houses.

In the terms of this nomenclature he has indicated on a map the intensity with which the shock of the 14th of January was felt in different parts of Jamaica.

From Kingston and its neighbourhood the shock, which there of course was No. VI. on the scale, diminished, until at the extreme east end, and for a large part of the west end, it was felt only as a No. III. shock. It thus resembled that of 1812 in that it was felt chiefly at the eastern end of the Island.

The epicentre or place immediately above the focus is placed by Mr. Hall a few miles to the south-east of Plumb Point Lighthouse, and he thinks that there was probably another focus near Buff Bay about 20 miles north of Kingston.

Mr. Hall gives three lists of earthquakes in Jamaica:

- (a) From 1688 to 1880, which he states is very imperfect;
- (b) From 1880 to the 14th January, 1907; and
- (c) From January 14th to July 5th, 1907.

In the first period he includes—

- one shock (1692) of Intensity VI.,
- one shock (1771) of Intensity V., and
- two shocks (1770 and 1812) of Intensity IV.

Except the shock of the 14th January last the second list includes none of Intensity VI. or greater force than No. III.

Among the shocks which have since occurred one only has been felt of force IV., and few of force III. By far the greatest number have been only slight shocks (No. I.).

After the calamity of last January an important truth began, as Mr. Hall observes, to dawn upon the community. The subject of earthquakes had been entirely overlooked in Jamaica, and the ruins of scores of modern brick villas afford proof enough of the fact. The lessons of history had been disregarded, and protracted immunity from serious disturbance had lulled to sleep the memory of recent generations. The liability to earthquakes is more widespread than is often realized by communities which have escaped damage for a century, but the realisation of this source of possible danger need cause no serious alarm, provided that buildings are constructed of the materials and on the principles which have stood the test of experience in the past.

H. CLARENCE BOURNE.

12th October, 1907.

APPENDIX.

JAMAICA.

A comparative table of REVENUE and EXPENDITURE, 1881-1907.

	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1884-85.	1885-86.	1886-87.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1889-90. (½ year.)	1890-91.	1891-92.	1892-93.	1893-94.
General Revenue	£ 460,990	£ 480,015	£ 487,069	£ 498,719	£ 492,283	£ 487,481	£ 508,033	£ 570,043	£ 403,729*	£ 619,538	£ 580,686	£ 548,731	£ 538,549
Expenditure	£ 480,126	£ 480,564	£ 482,053	£ 479,210	£ 483,585	£ 507,116	£ 524,119	£ 543,130	£ 289,379	£ 562,386	£ 628,289	£ 692,236	£ 614,360
Surplus, or..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deficit	£ 204	£ 26,451	£ 15,013	£ 21,809	£ 27,302	£ 19,735	£ 43,684	£ 27,484	£ 134,660*	£ 31,200	£ 48,693	£ 53,505	£ 28,811
Loans issued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Debris liquidated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
over and above	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sinking Funds.	£ 400,700	£ —	£ —	£ 255,500	£ 42,830	£ 35,300	£ 58,500	£ 32,100	£ —	£ —	£ 2,526	£ 81,871	£ 180,000

	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1898-1899.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1905-06.	1906-07.
General Revenue	£ 611,581	£ 632,675	£ 660,024	£ 640,509	£ 624,022	£ 760,387	£ 774,837	£ 856,511	£ 926,164†	£ 761,562	£ 885,096	£ 886,911
Expenditure	£ 606,108	£ 613,506	£ 660,024	£ 627,423	£ 693,927	£ 763,902	£ 761,700	£ 788,847	£ 822,876	£ 824,816	£ 821,611	£ 827,386
Surplus, or..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Deficit	£ 6,473	£ 19,169	£ 72,359	£ 86,914	£ 30,895	£ 3,515	£ 23,137	£ 67,667	£ 103,288†	£ 73,254	£ 44,085	£ 50,524
Loans issued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Debris liquidated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
over and above	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sinking Funds.	£ 42,420	£ 25,000	£ 58,800	£ 214,800	£ —	£ 1,691,900	£ 31,400	£ 44,500	£ 2,769	£ —	£ 900	£ 24,367‡

* Includes £100,000 for sale of railway.

† Includes £104,384 uninvested balance Widows and Orphans' Fund.

‡ Included in expenditure.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1905-1906
518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Asranti	"
524	Jamaica	1905-1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	"
528	Bermuda	"
529	Gibraltar	"
530	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
531	Sierra Leone	"
532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906-1907
533	Wei-hai-wei	1906
534	Gold Coast	"
535	Malta	1906-1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906-1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906-1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Northern Nigeria	1906-1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904-5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905-6.
43	Caicos Islands	Fibre.
44	East Africa Protectorate	Survey Department.

